

JUMP COMICS



NARUTO

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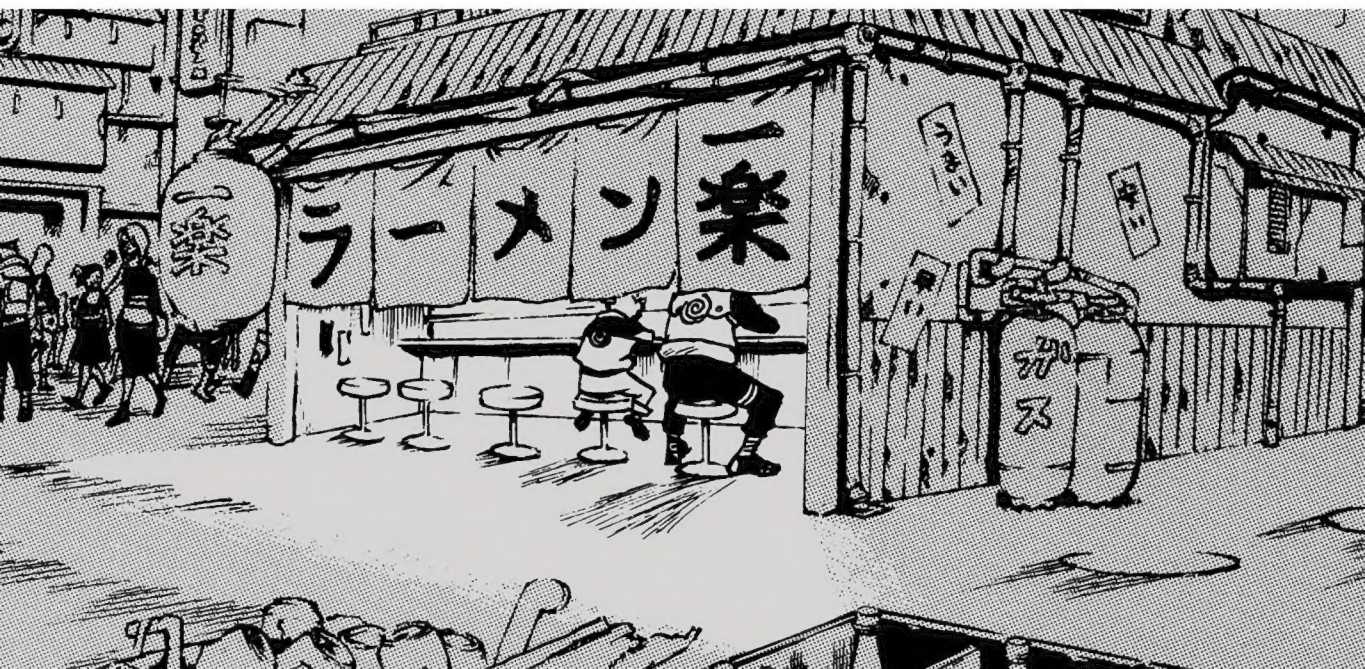
岸本 斉史

Greetings. With everyone's support, my first comic has been published. I'm ecstatic. Speaking of ecstatic, the first time I won an award for one of my manga, I was so happy I was flying high. But this time is 10 times better than that. I don't know how to say it, but this is the happiest moment of my life. But I guess I'm happiest knowing that this comic will be read and enjoyed. Yup, that's it!

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2000



Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** ("mechanism"). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.



JUMP COMICS



NARUTO

—ナルト—

うずまきナルト 巻一



岸本斉史

NARUTO

—ナルト—

巻ノ一

うずまきナルト



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UZUMAKI NARUTO!!

ナンバー



1 : うずまきナルト!!

THE SUFFERING
PEOPLE GATHERED
THE GREAT SHINOBI
CLANS TO FIGHT
THIS MENACE.
FINALLY, RISKING HIS
LIFE, ONE NINJA WAS
ABLE TO IMPRISON
ITS SOUL.

ONCE UPON A TIME,
THERE LIVED A FOX
SPIRIT WITH NINE TAILS,
AND HE WAS SO
POWERFUL THAT
WHENEVER HE SHOOK
THOSE TAILS,
LANDSLIDES AND
TSUNAMIS WOULD
RESULT.

THAT SHINOBI
WAS THE
FOURTH
HOKAGE, THE
FIRE SHADOW,
CHAMPION OF
THE VILLAGE
HIDDEN IN THE
LEAVES...

HAVING
DEFATED THE
DEMON, THE
BRAVE SHINOBI
DIED.



ナンバー

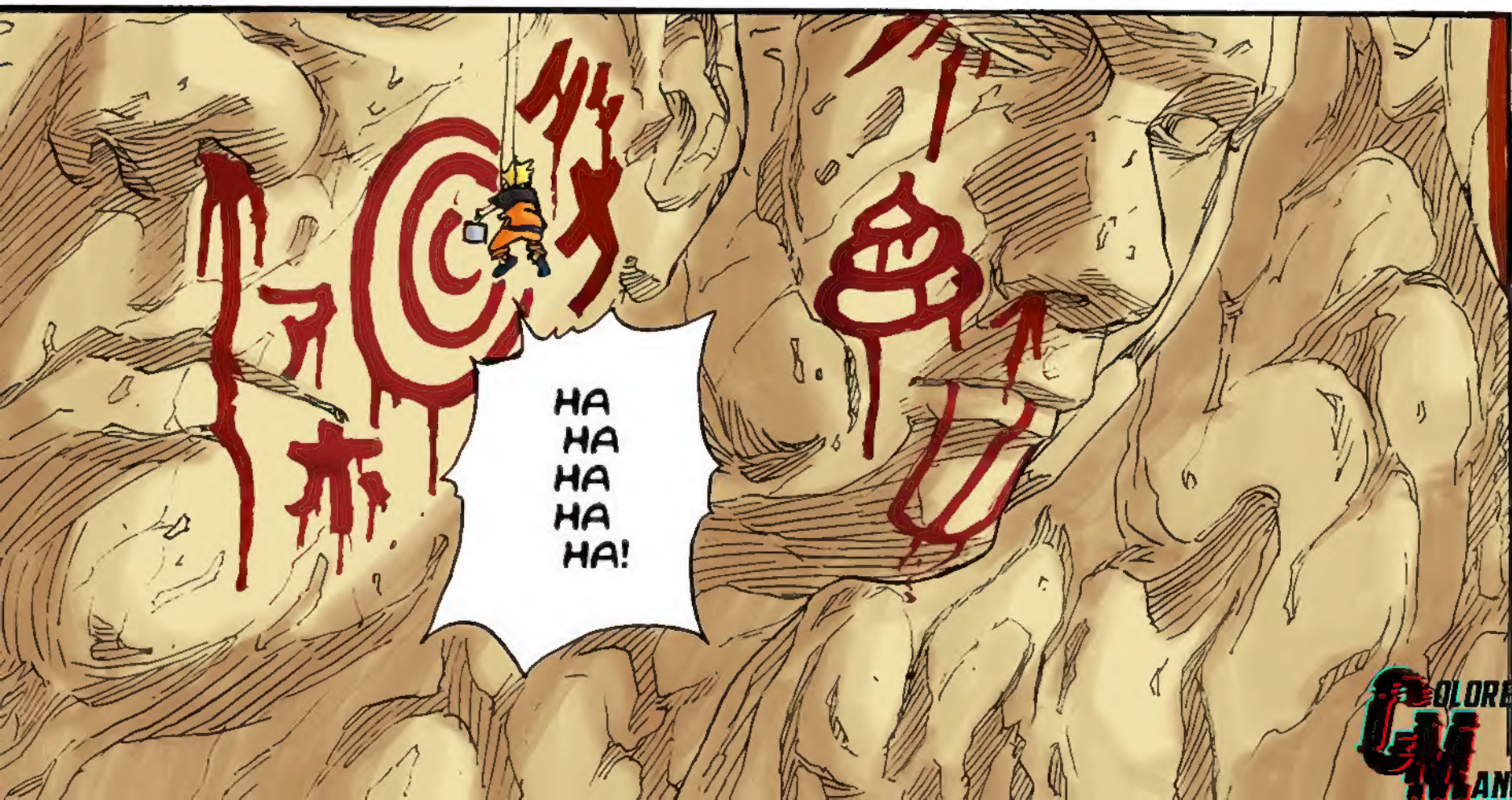


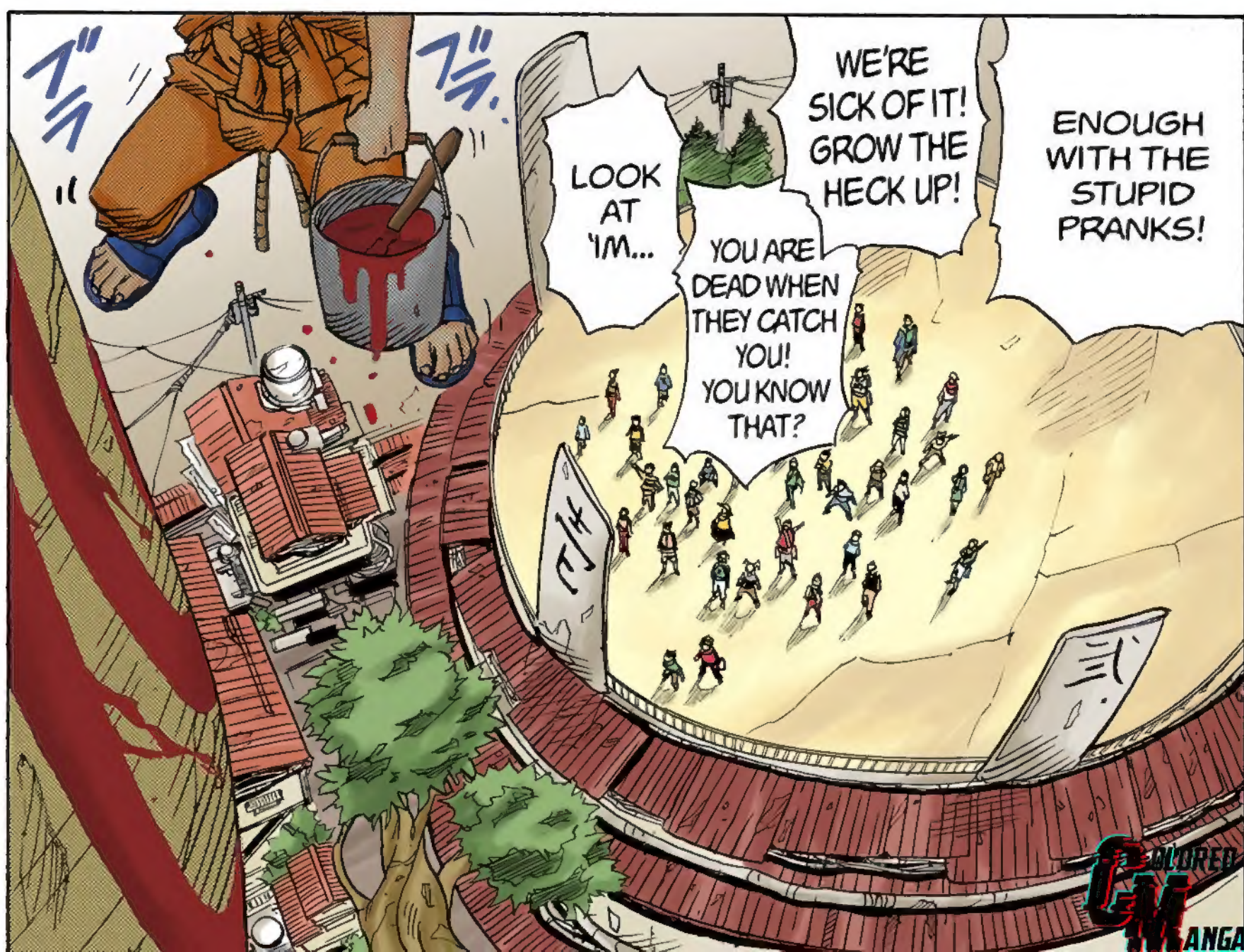
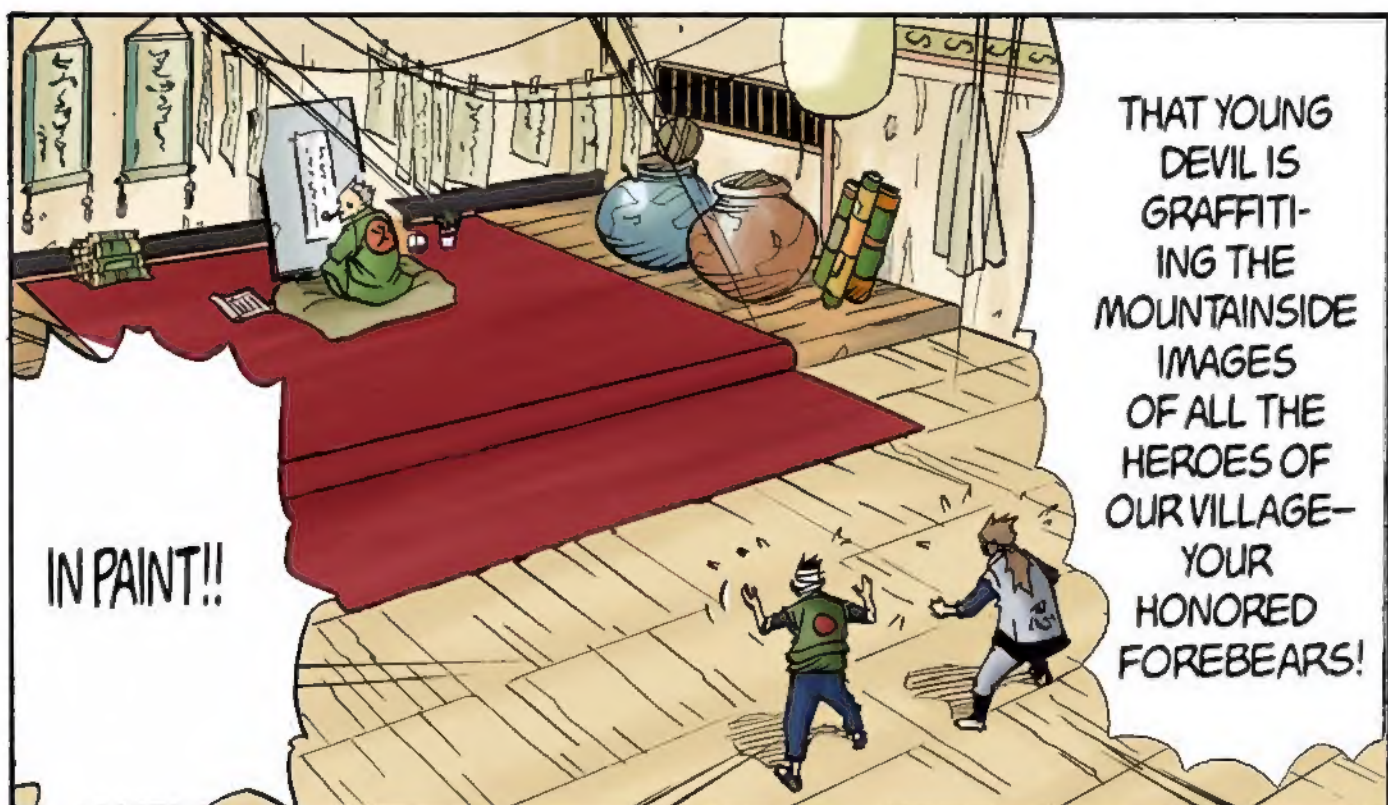
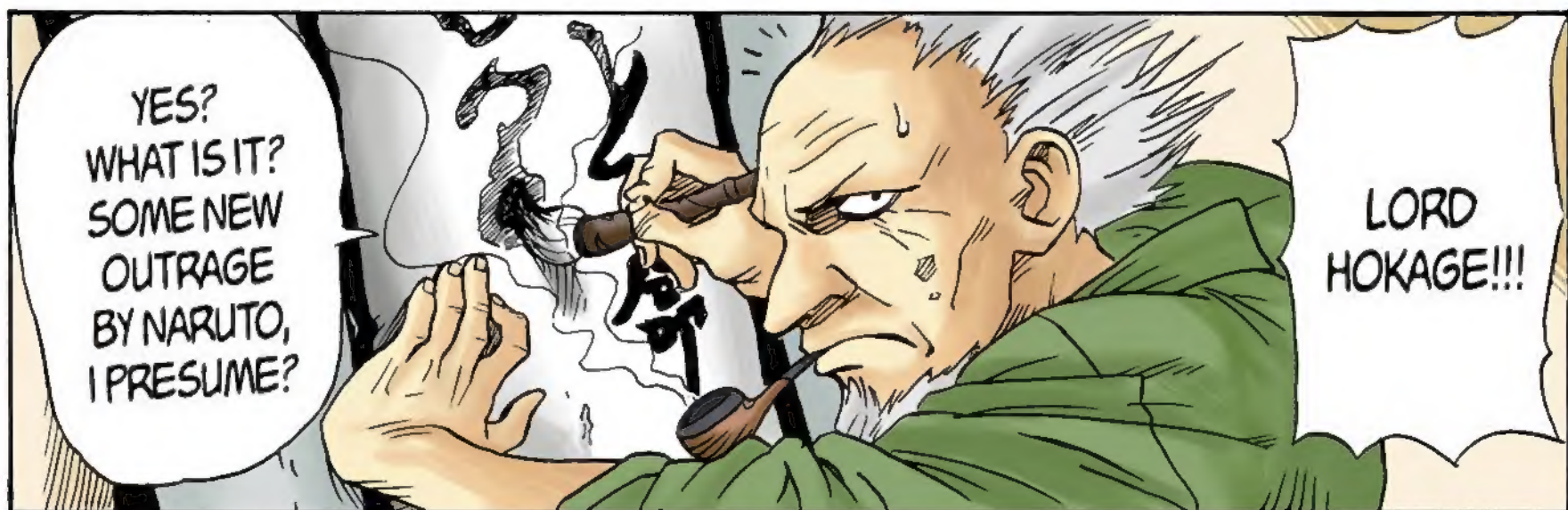
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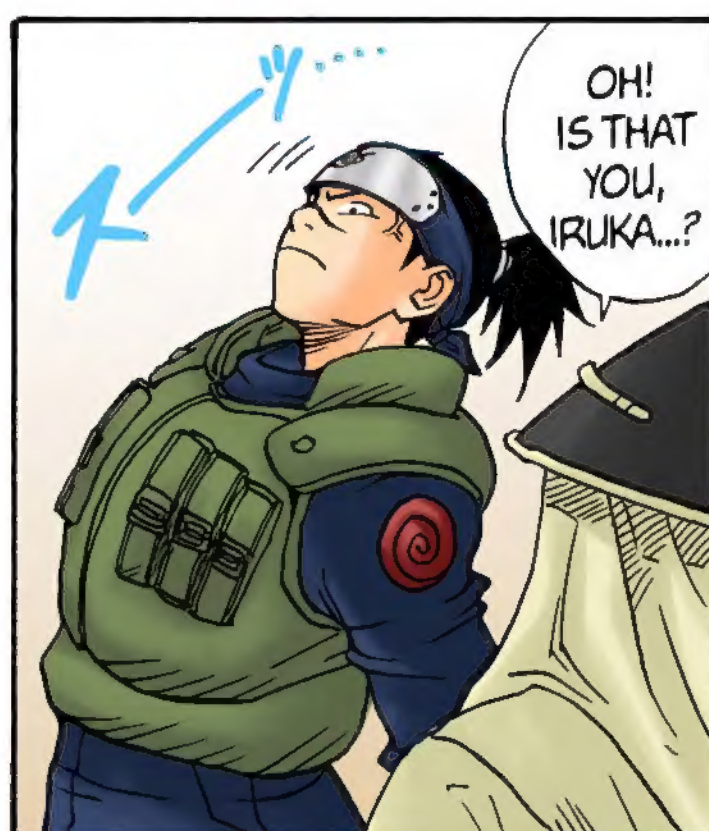
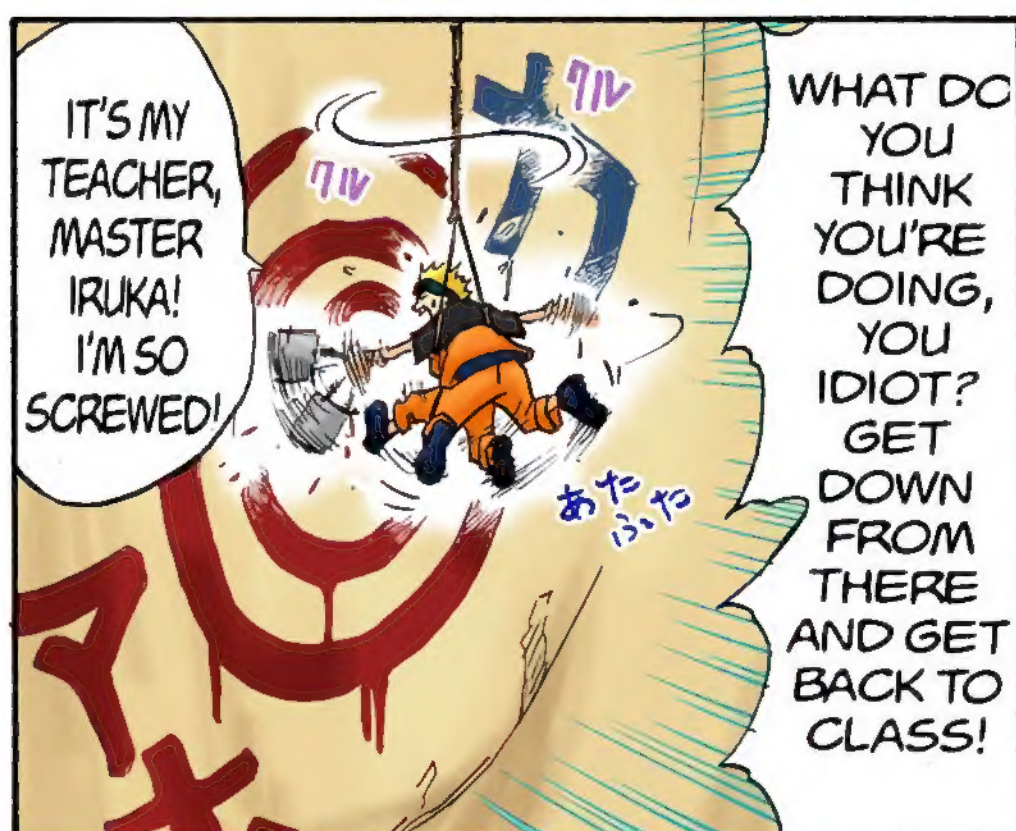
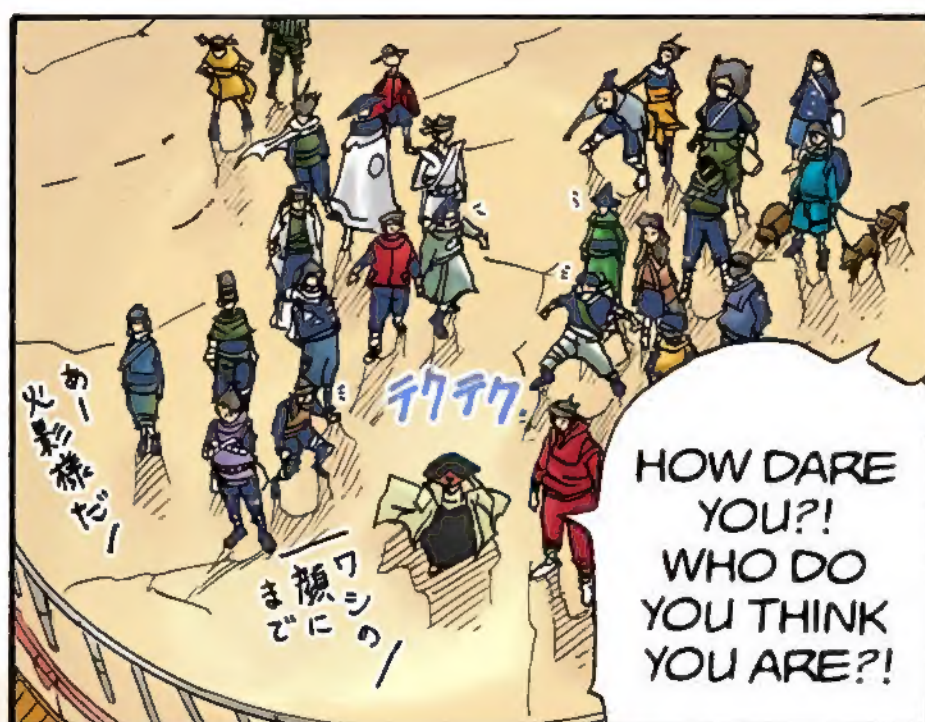
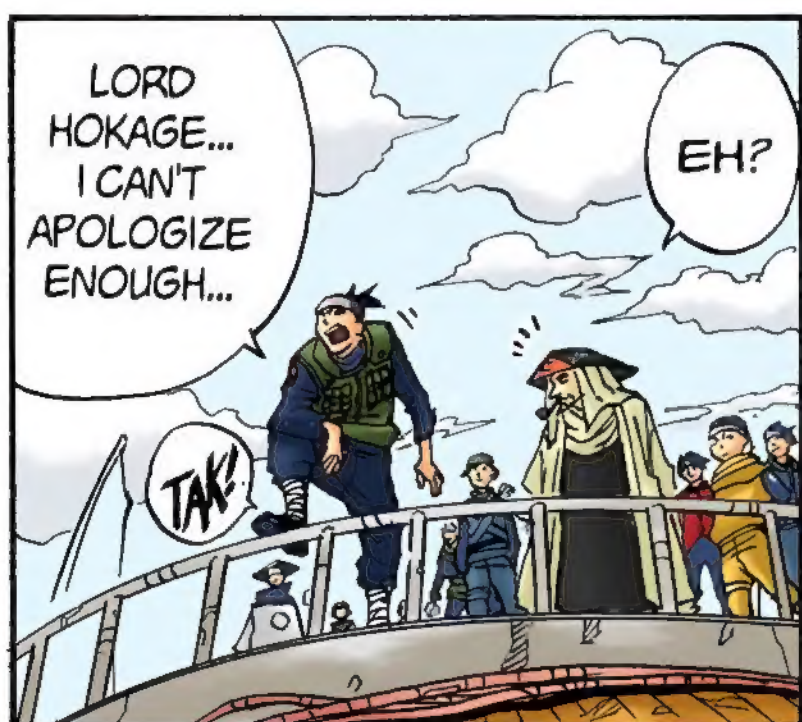
うずまきナルト!!

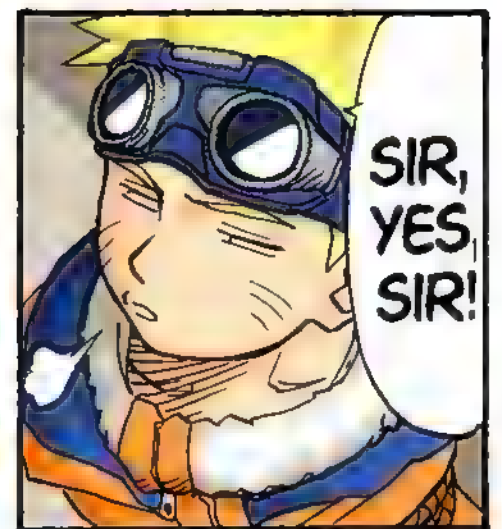
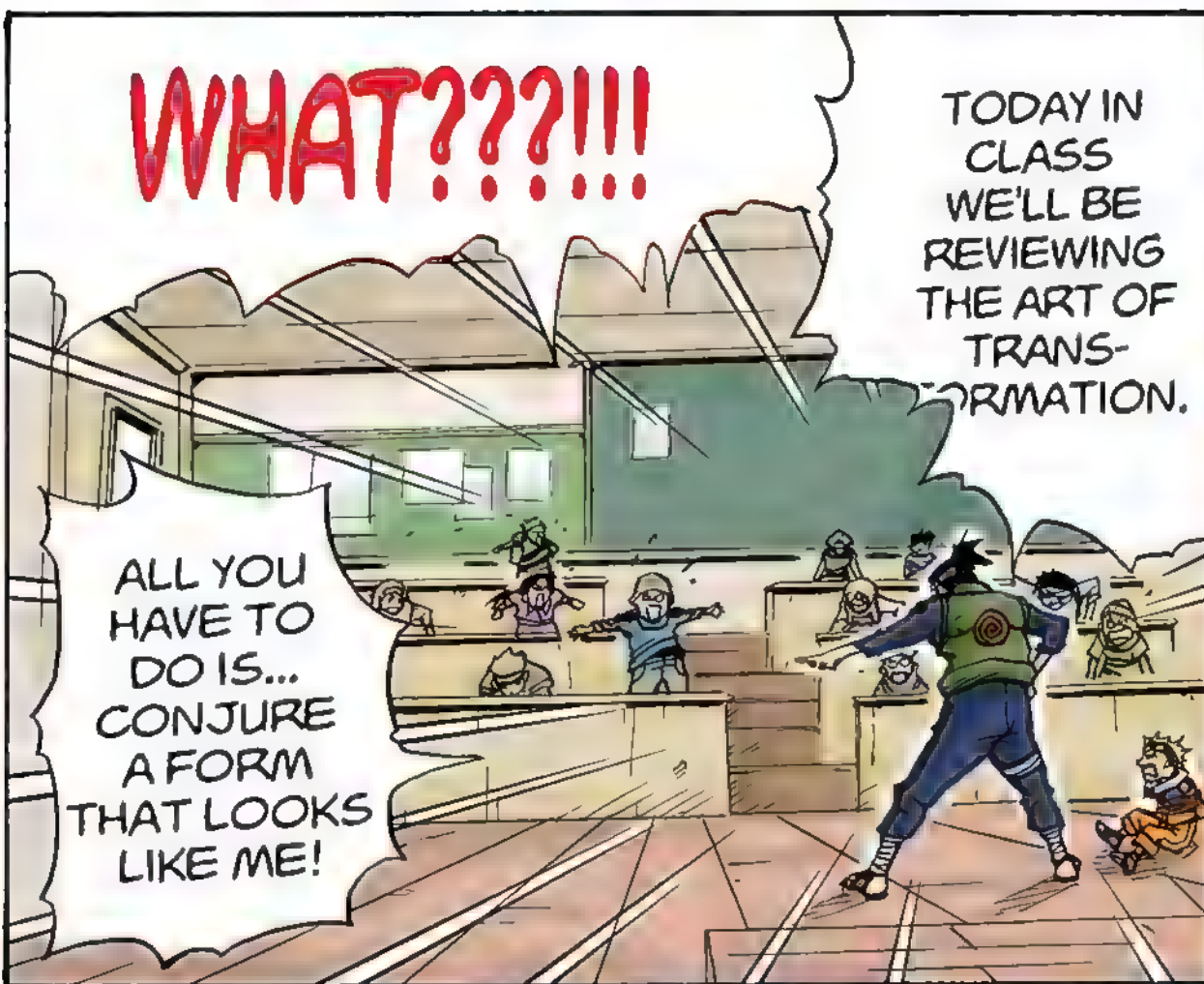
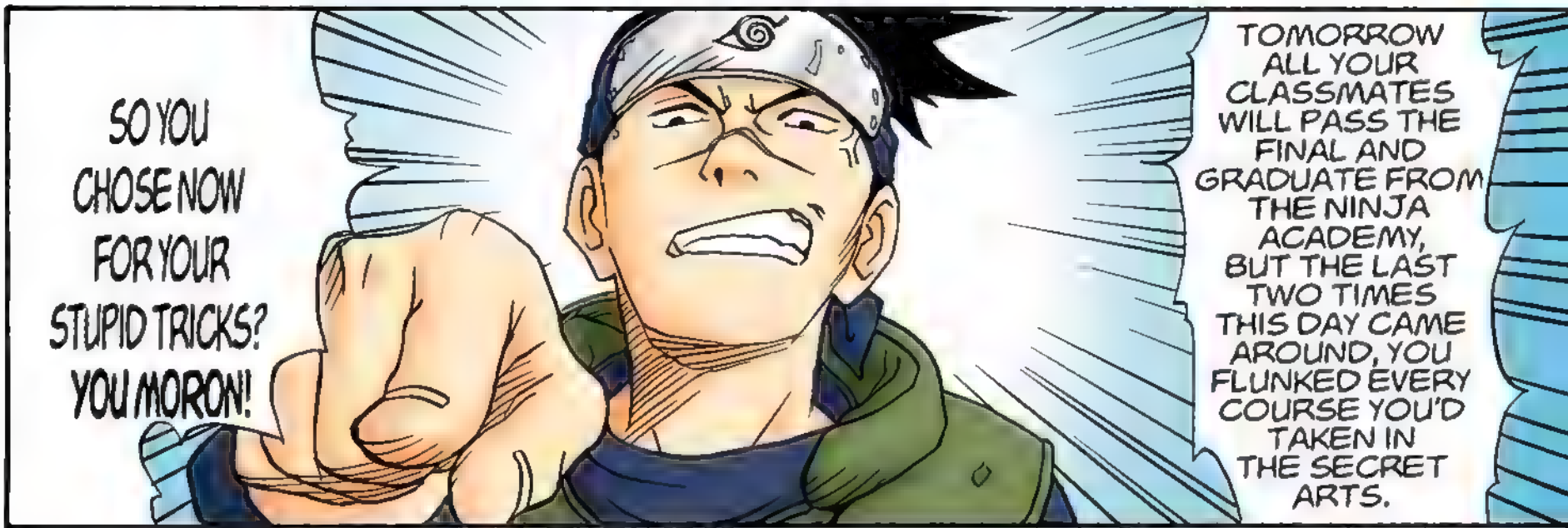
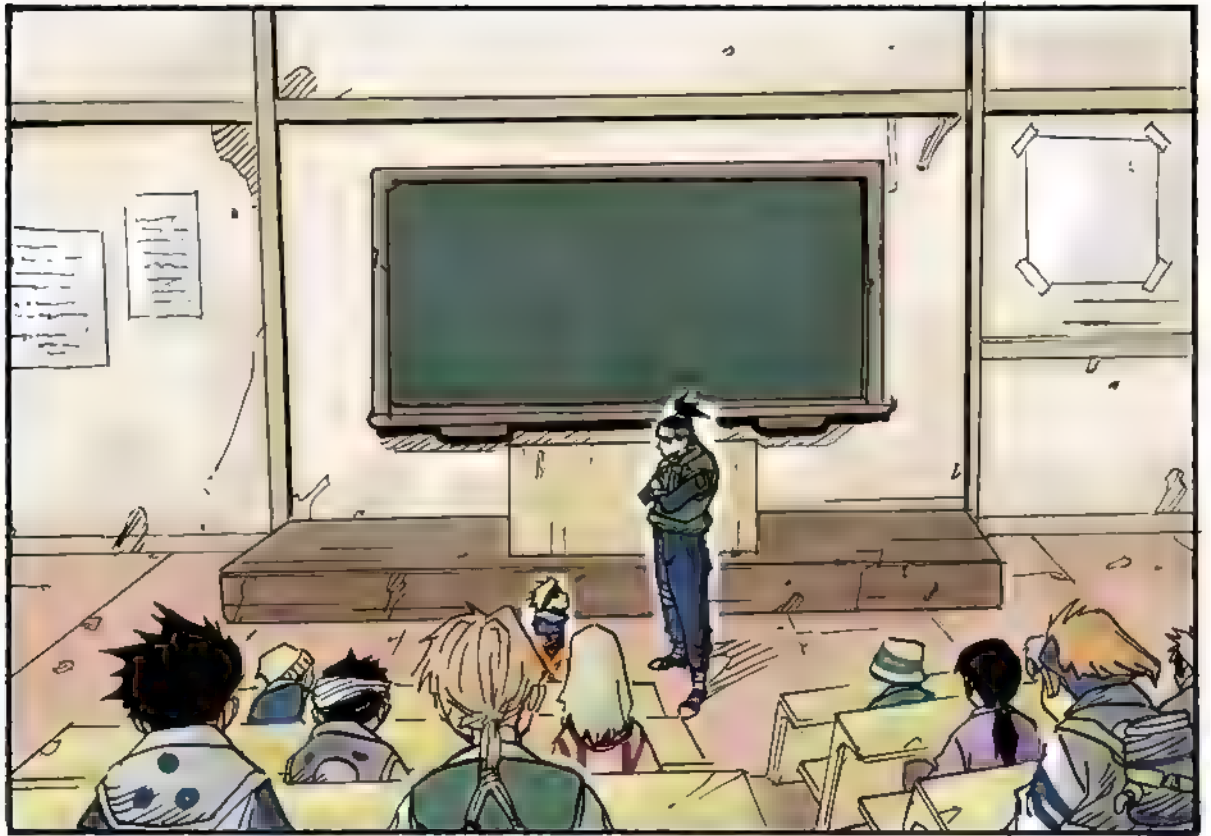
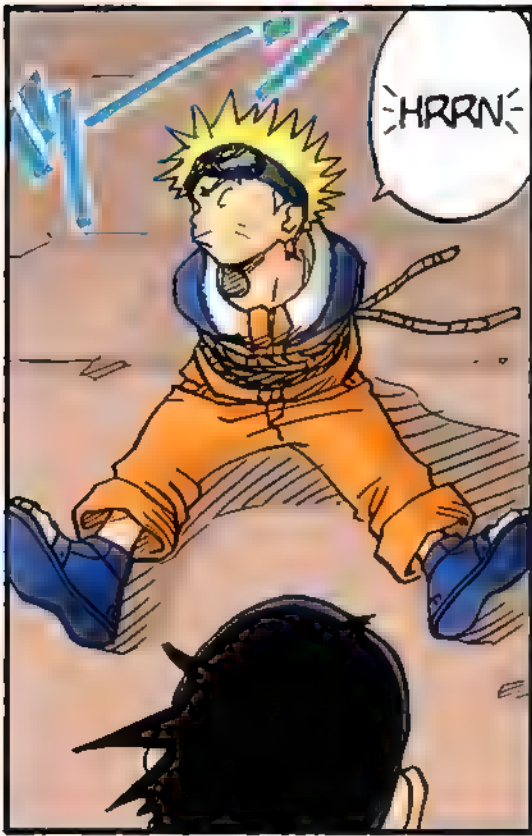


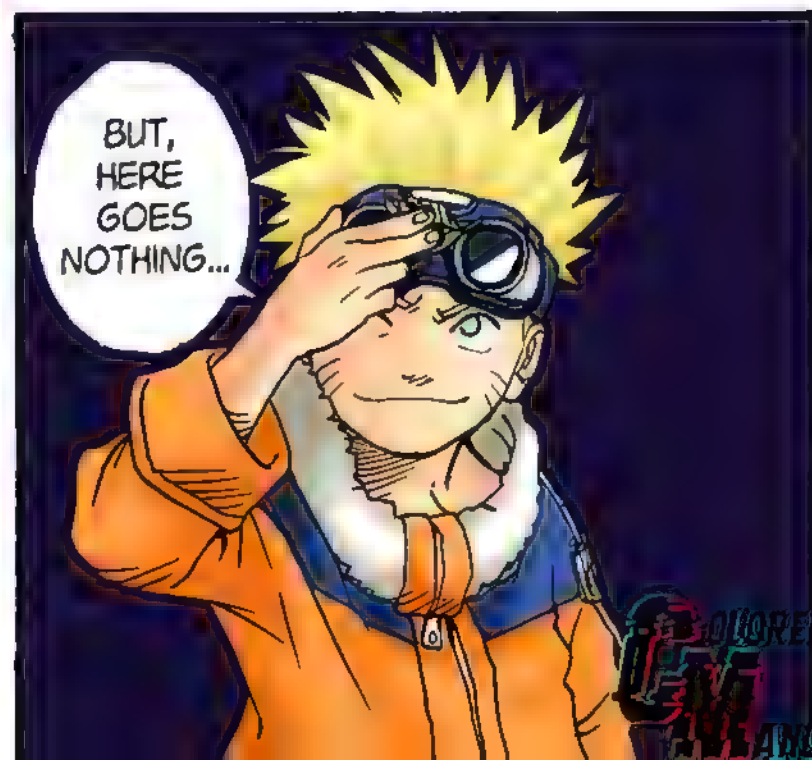
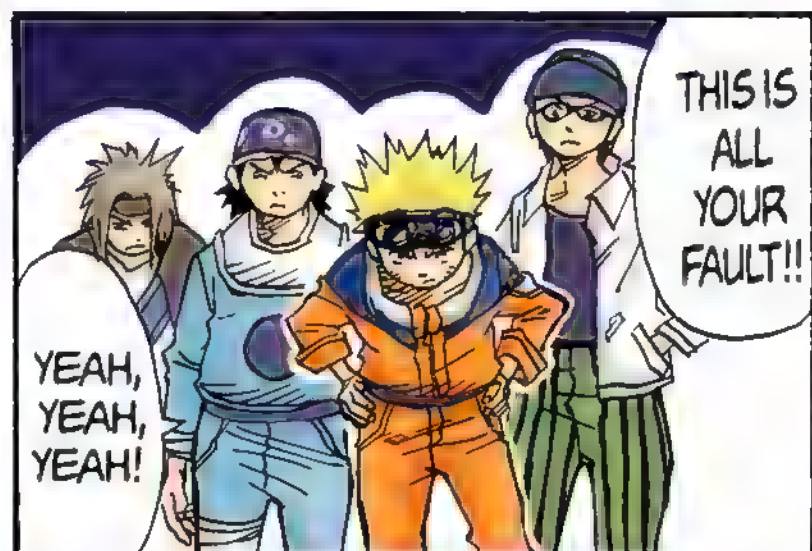
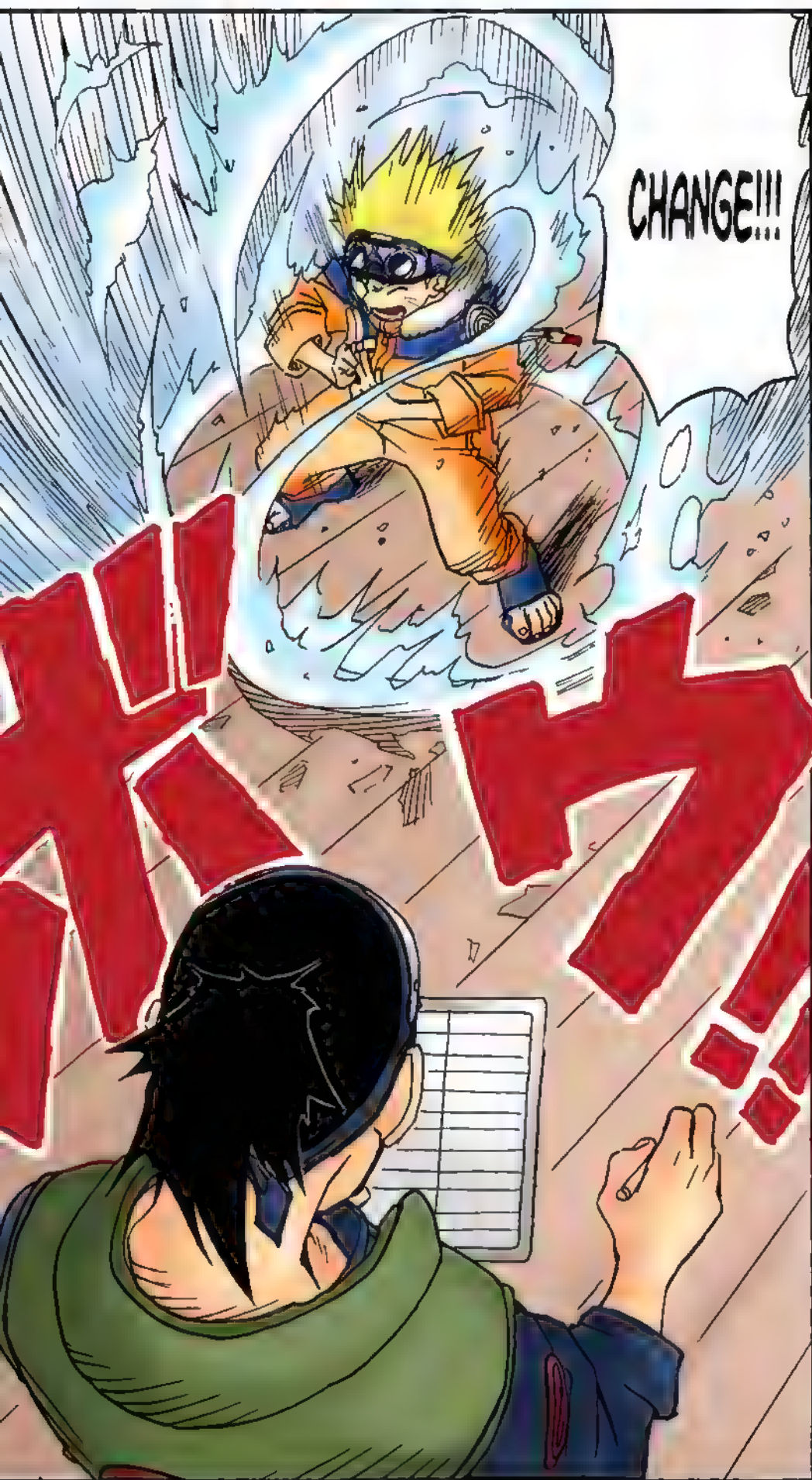
NARUTO
-ナルト-

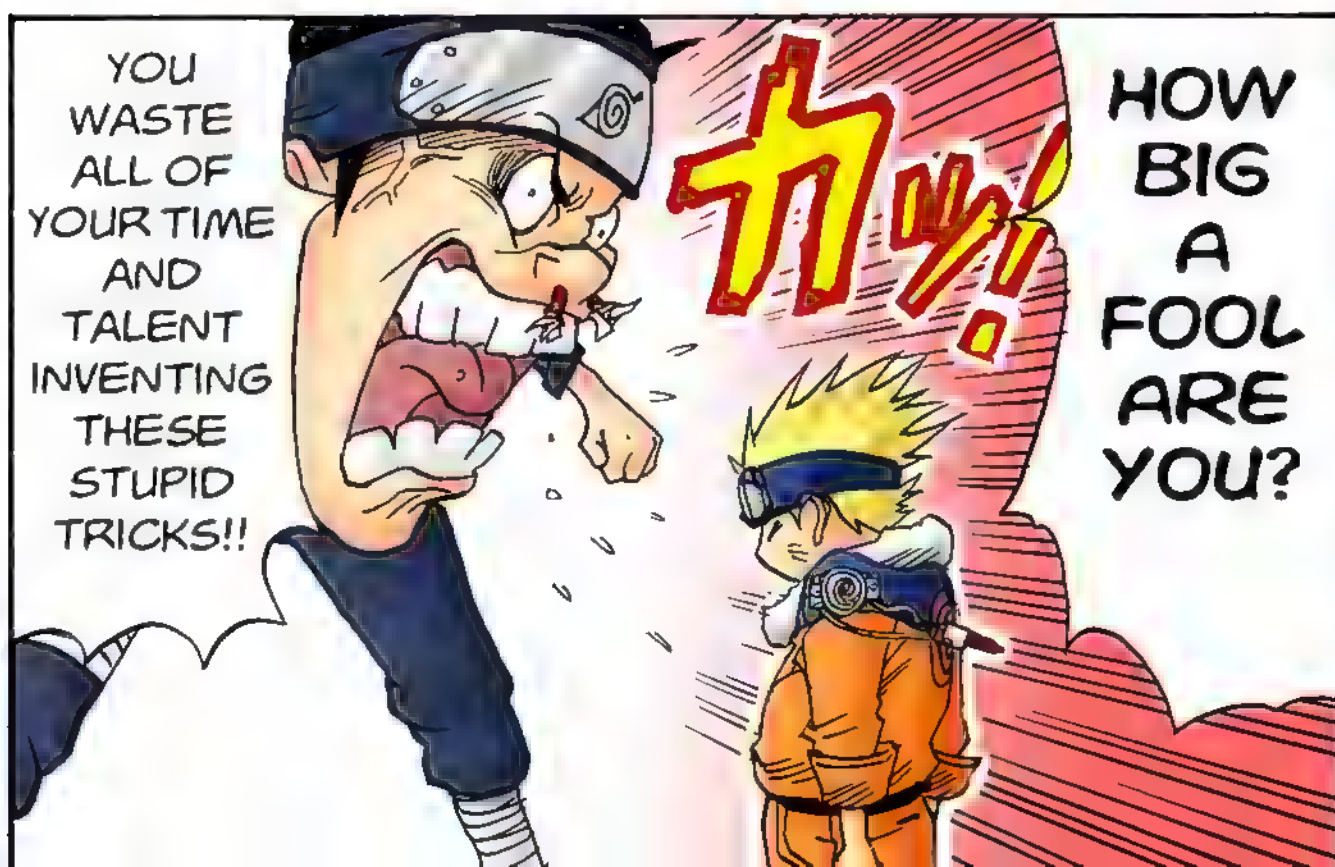


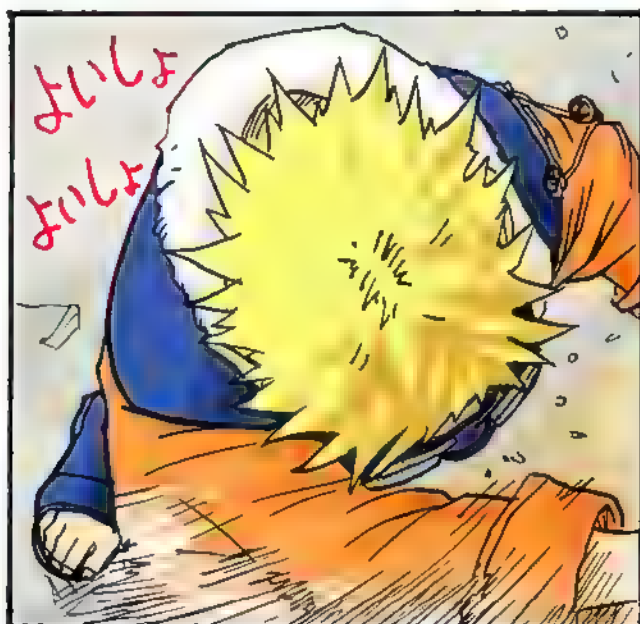
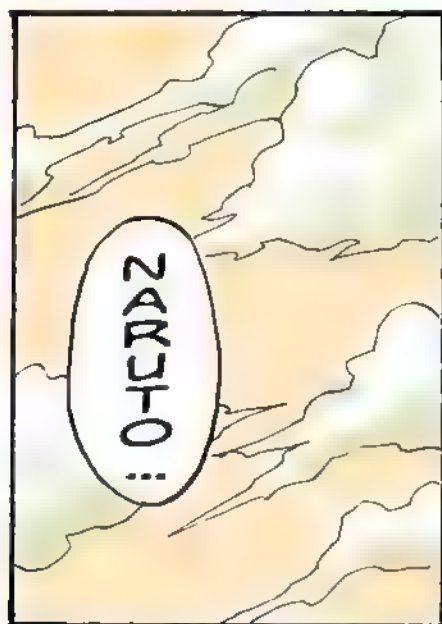
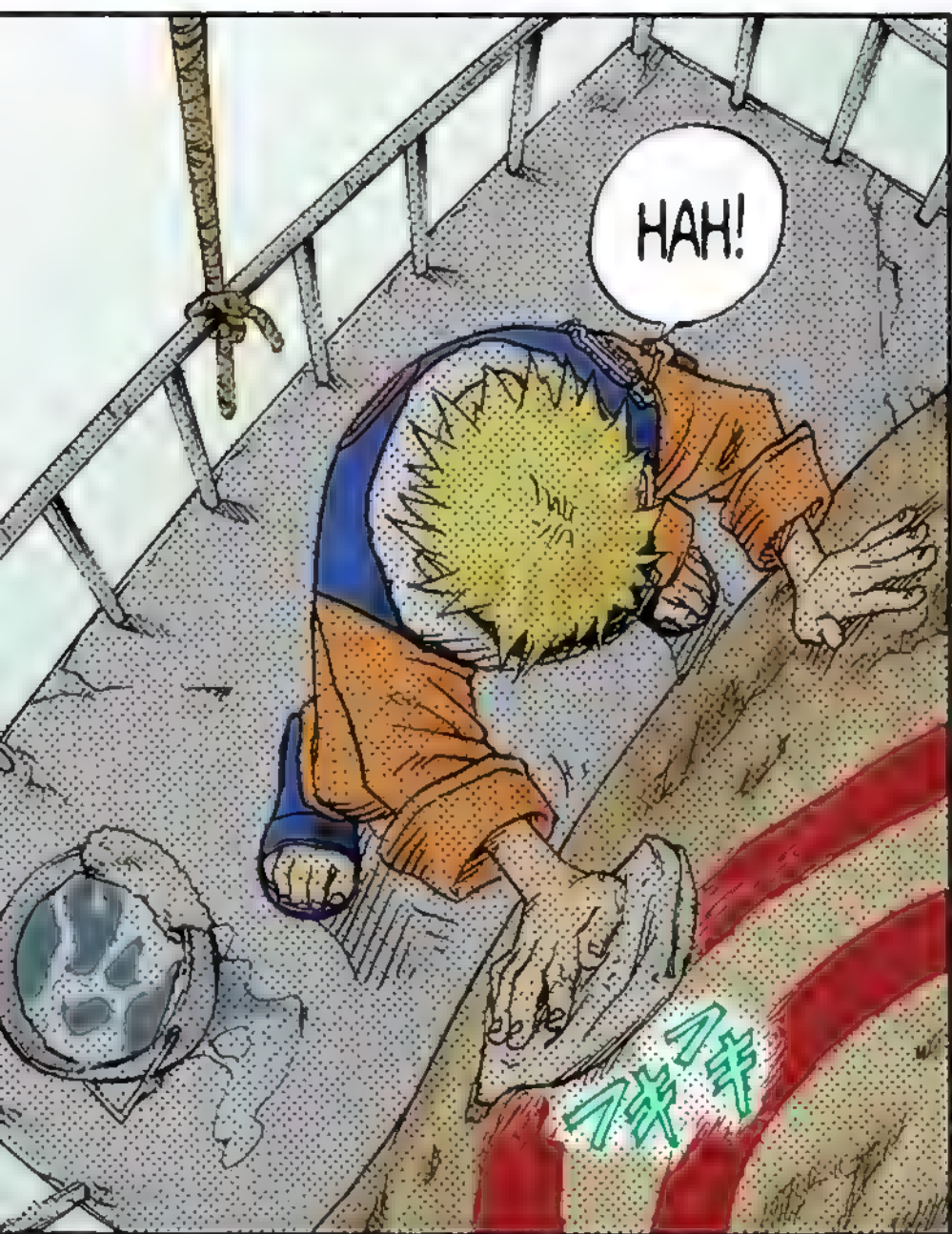
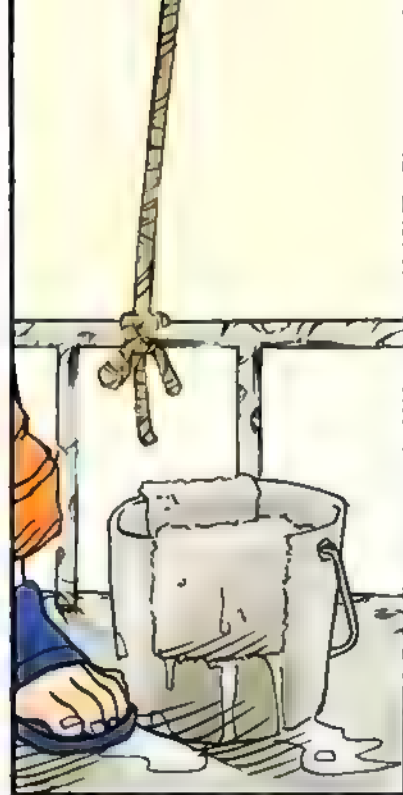
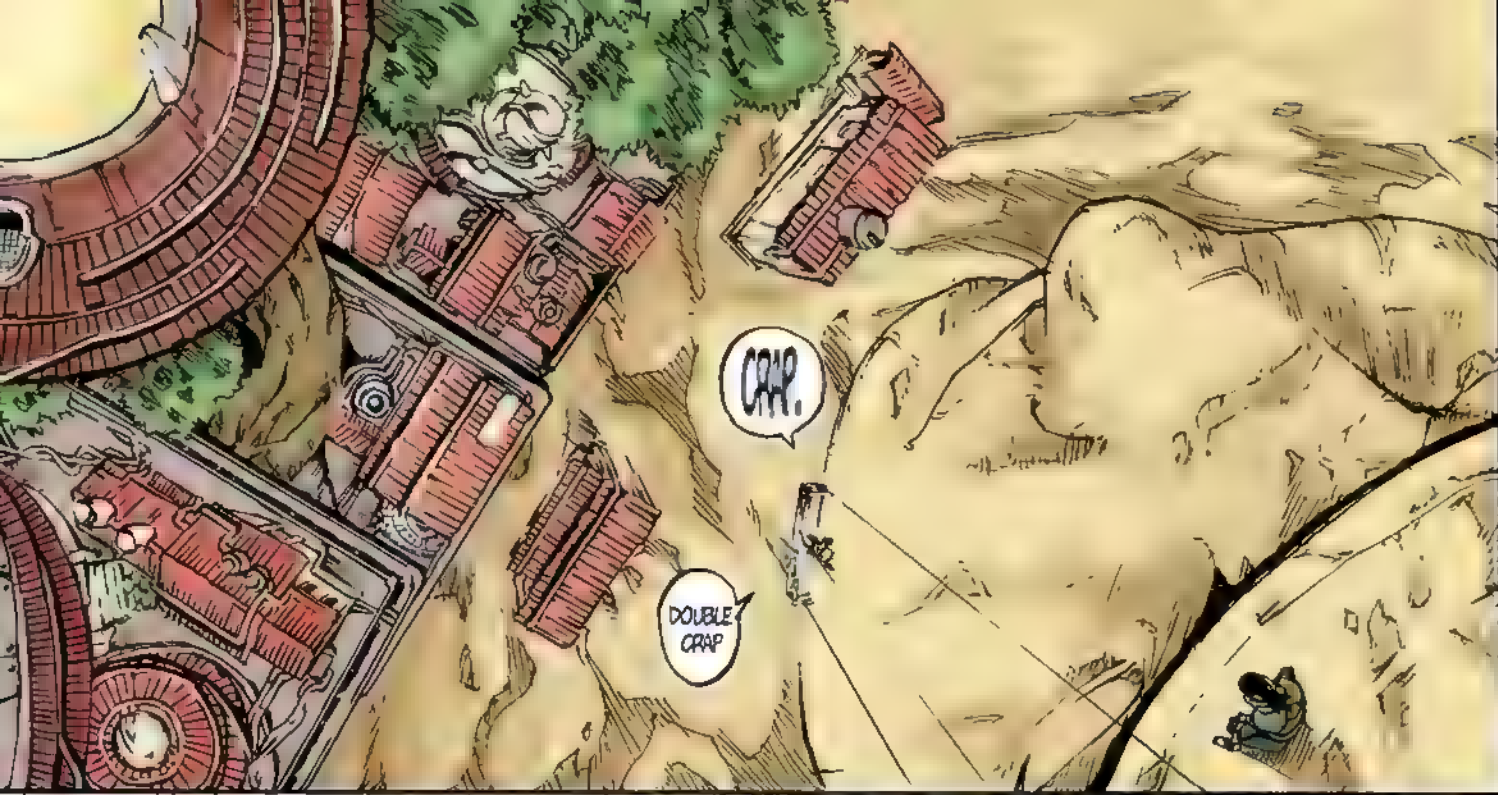


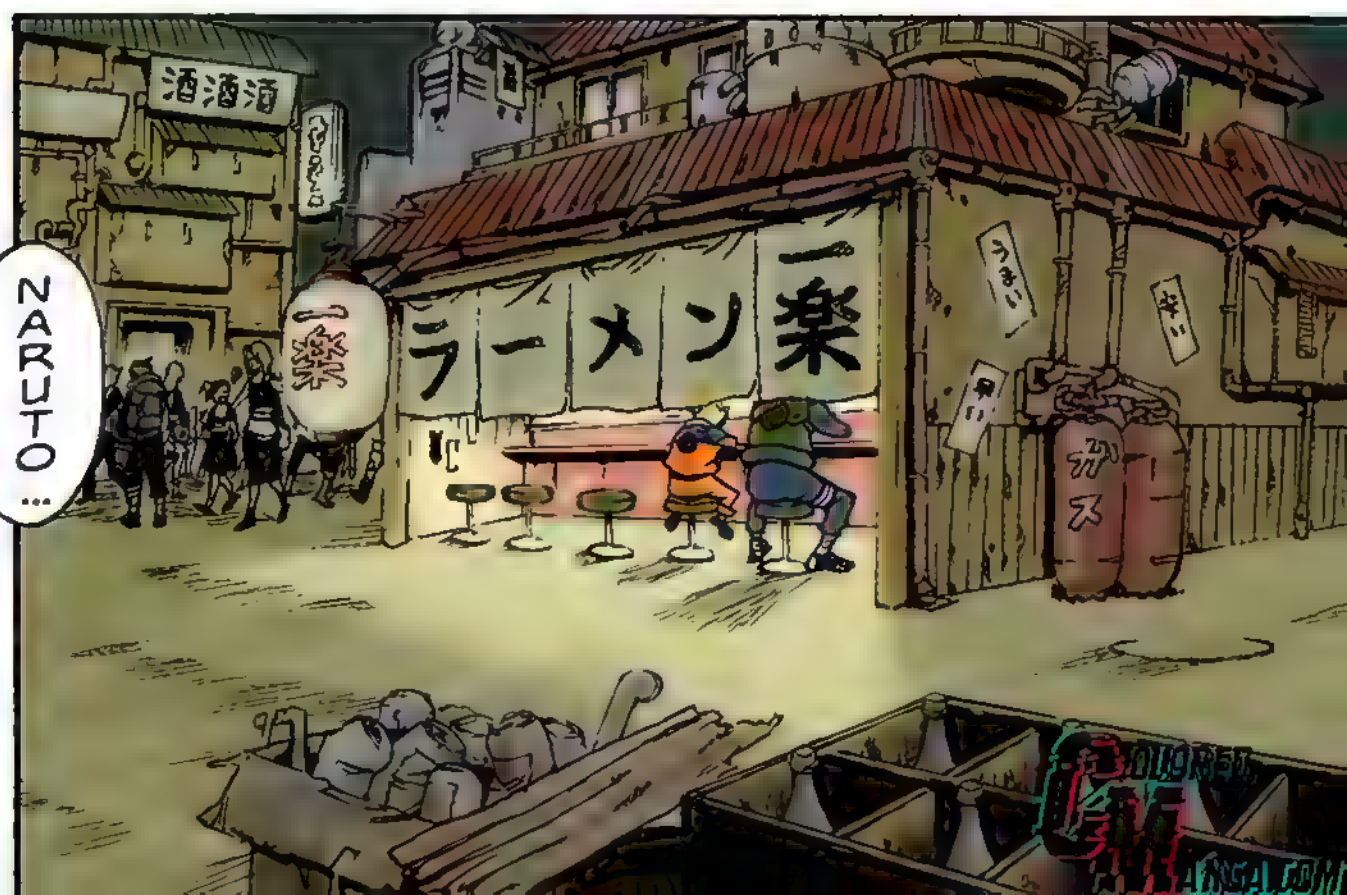
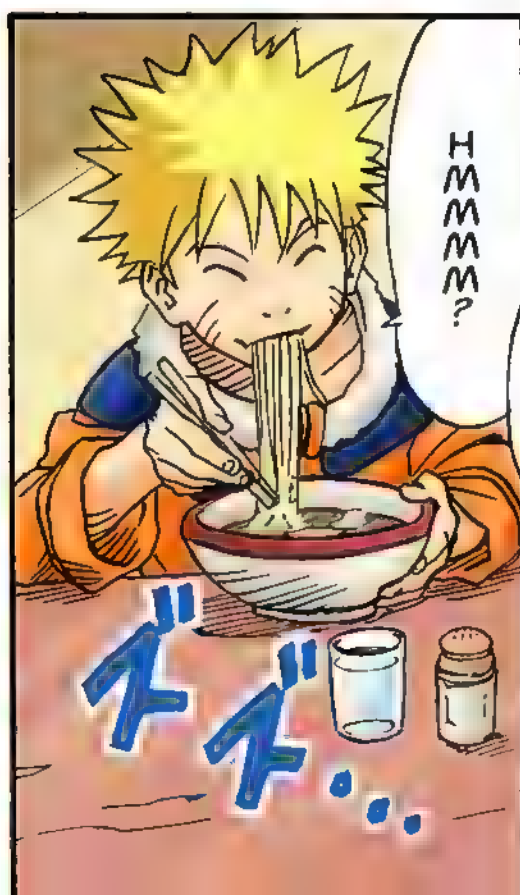
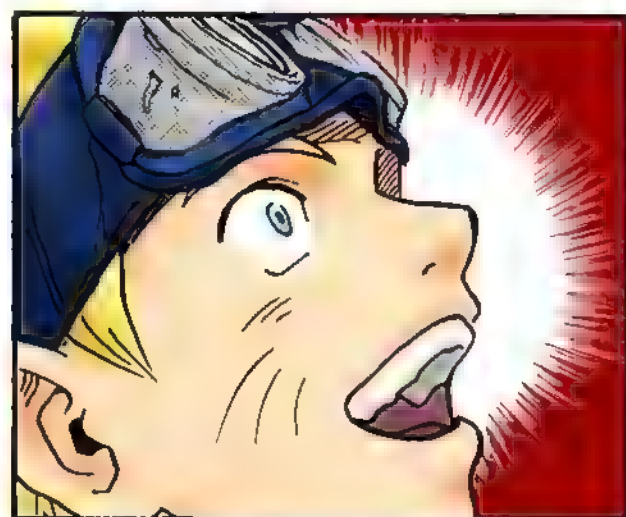
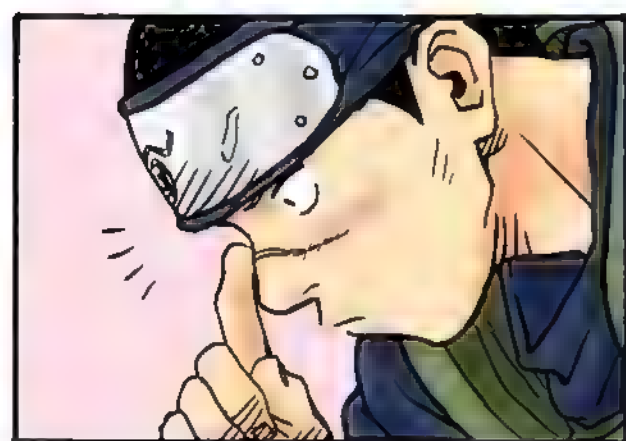
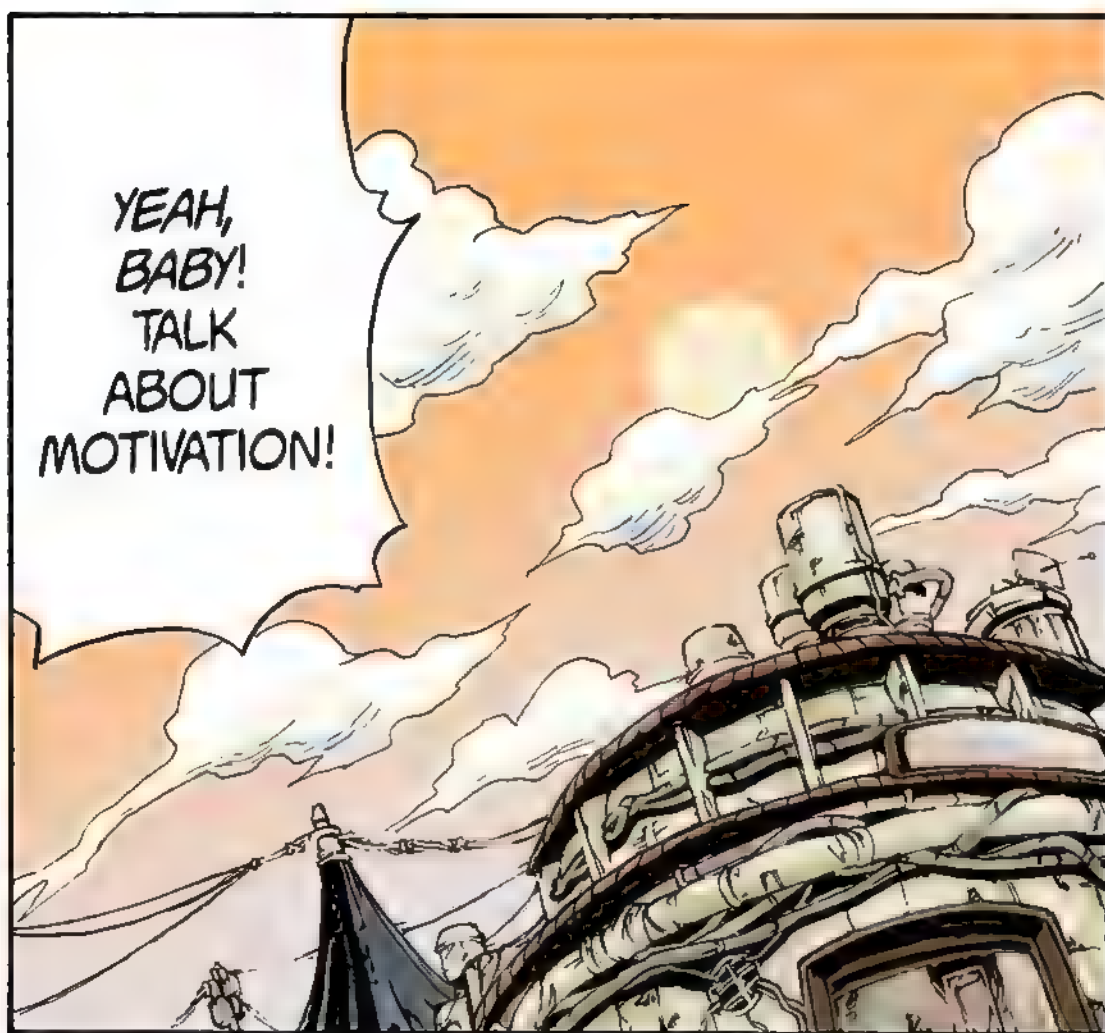
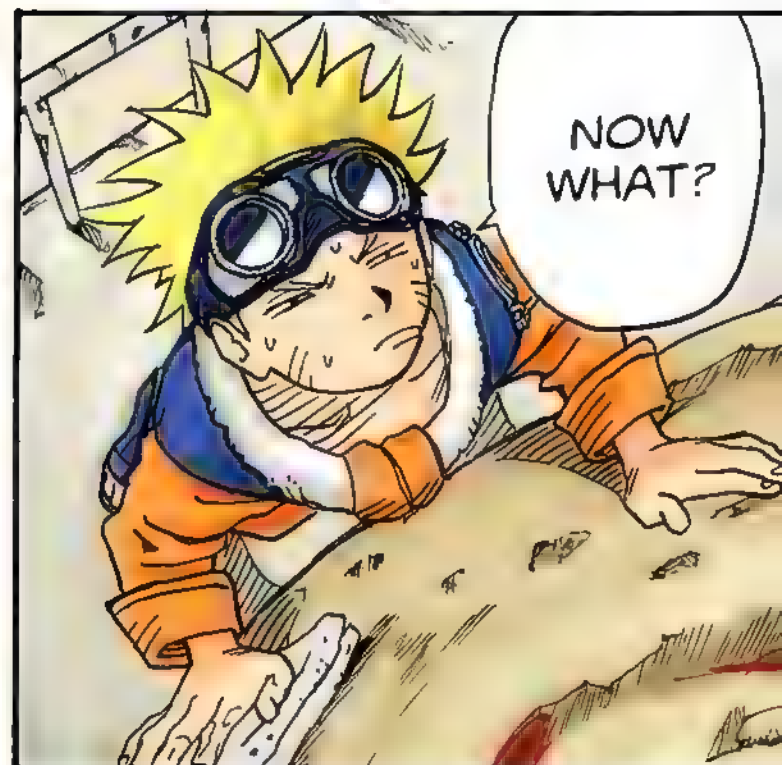
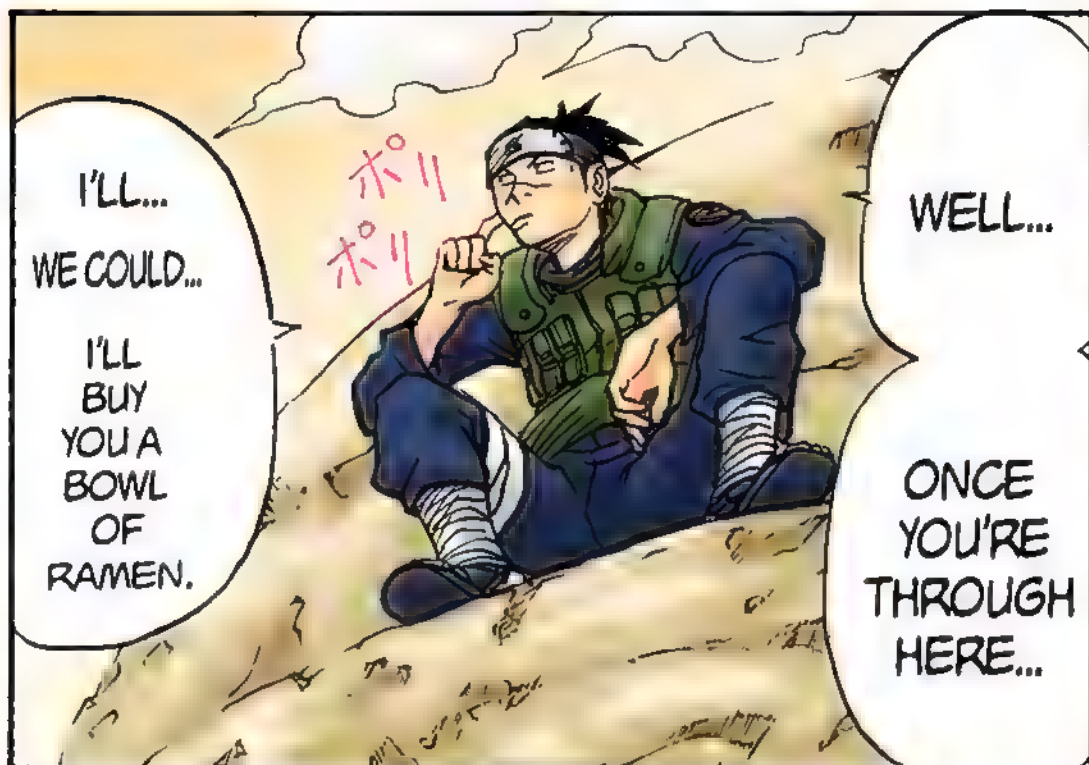


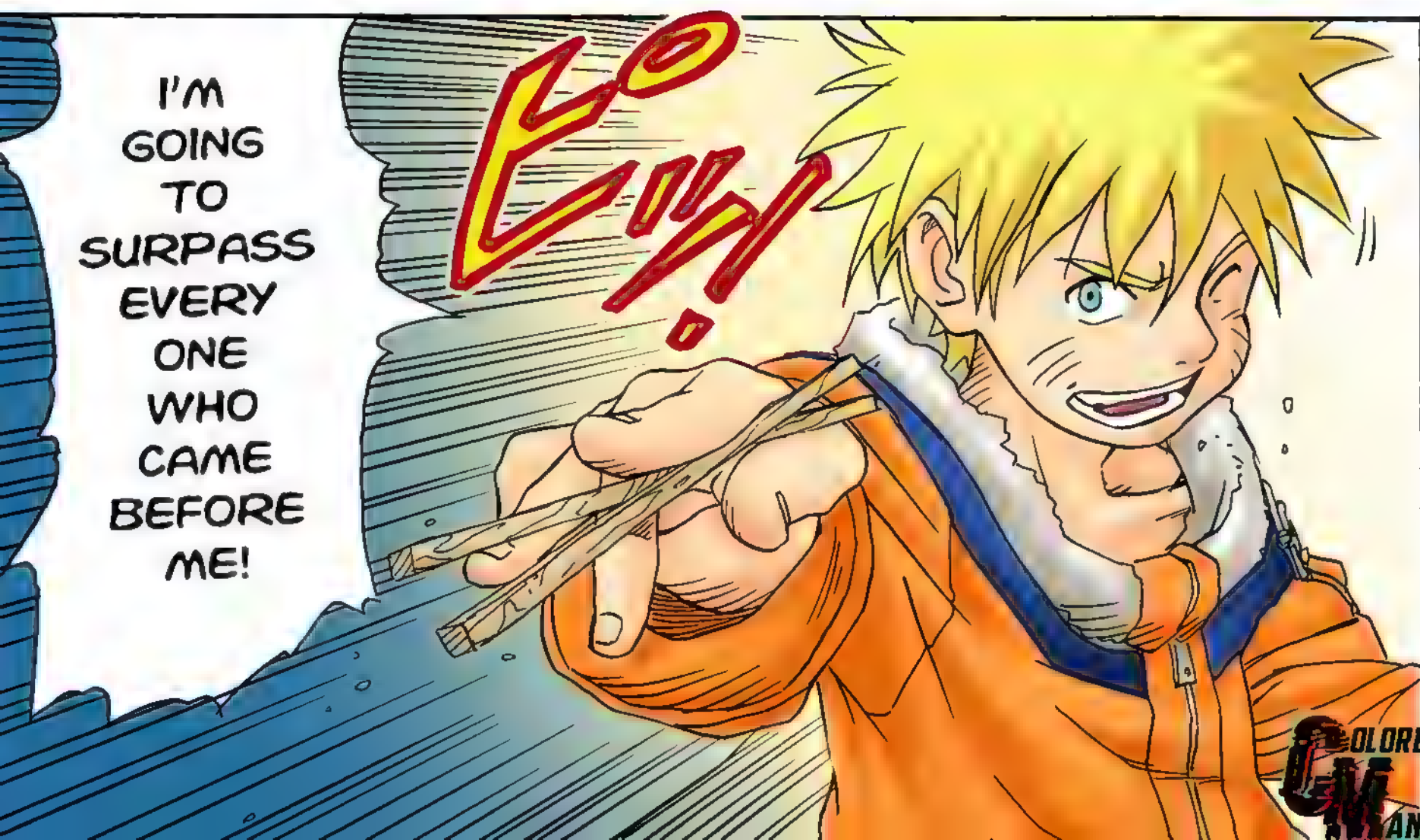
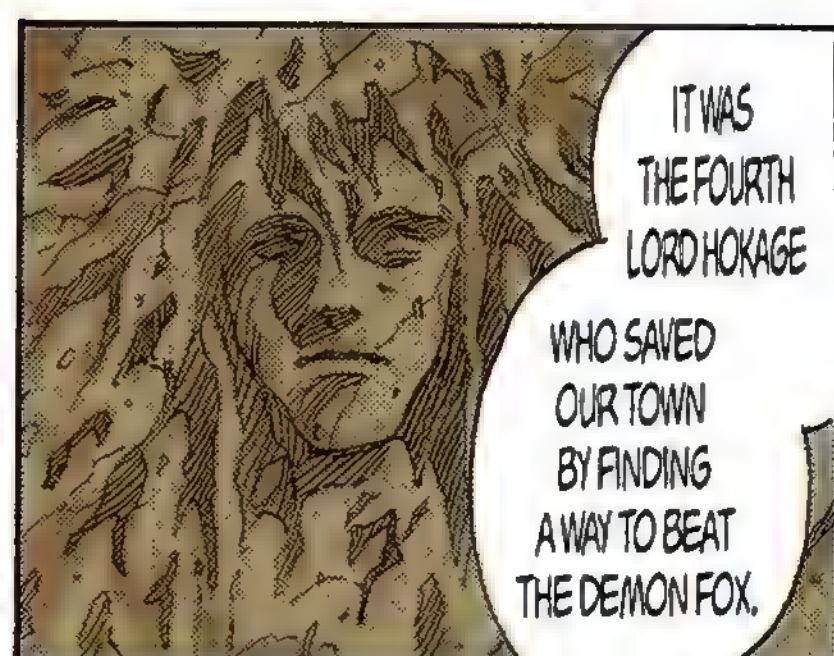
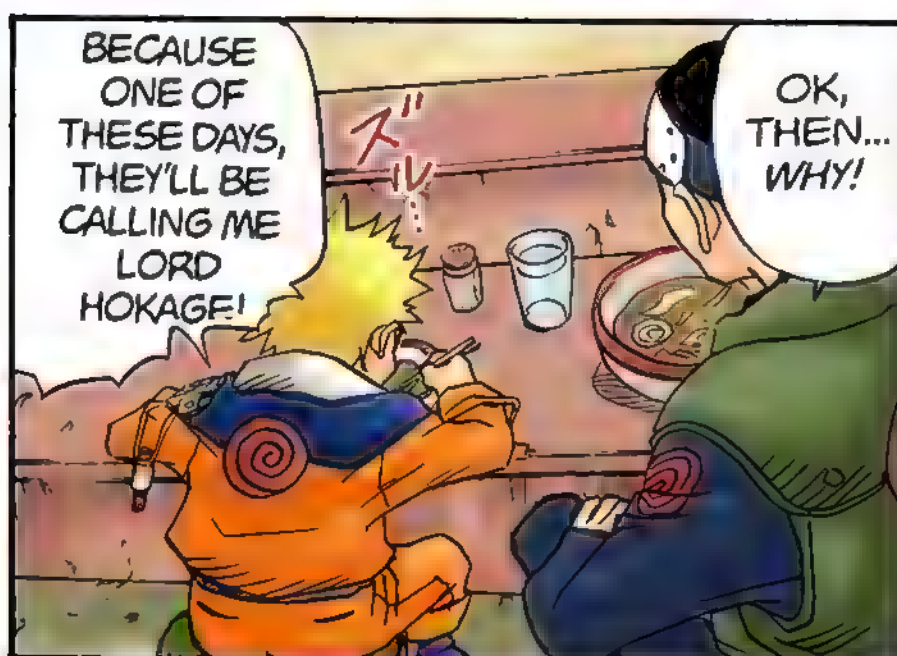
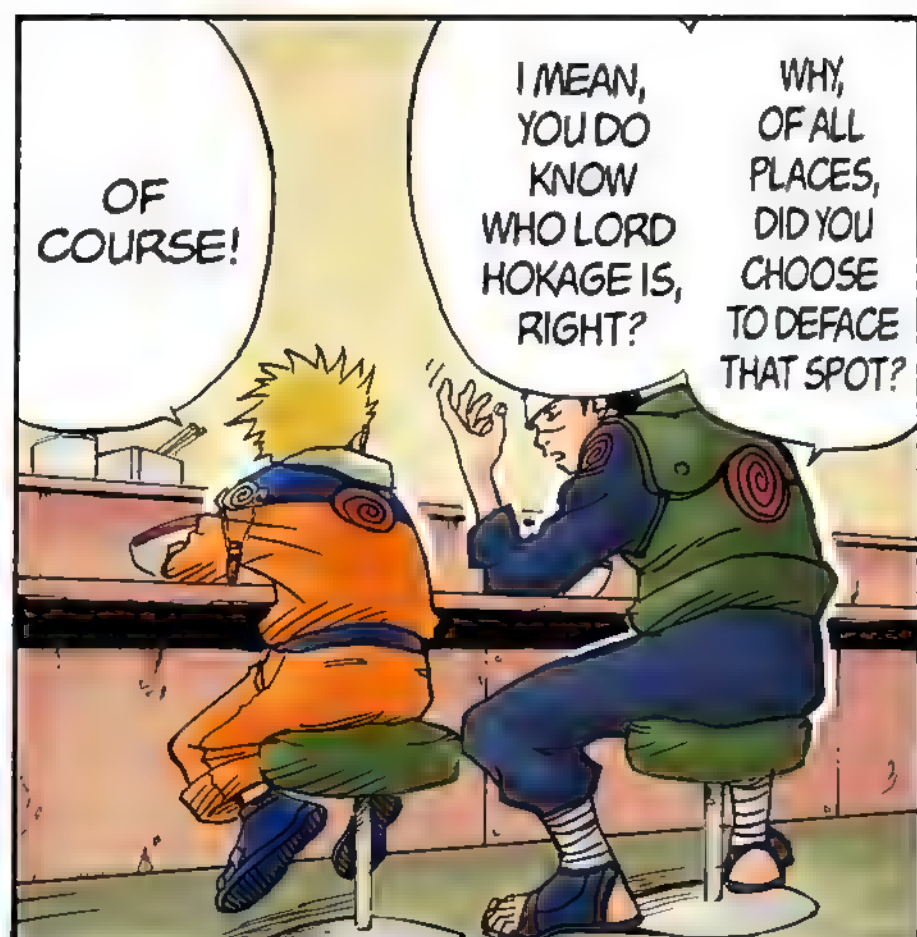
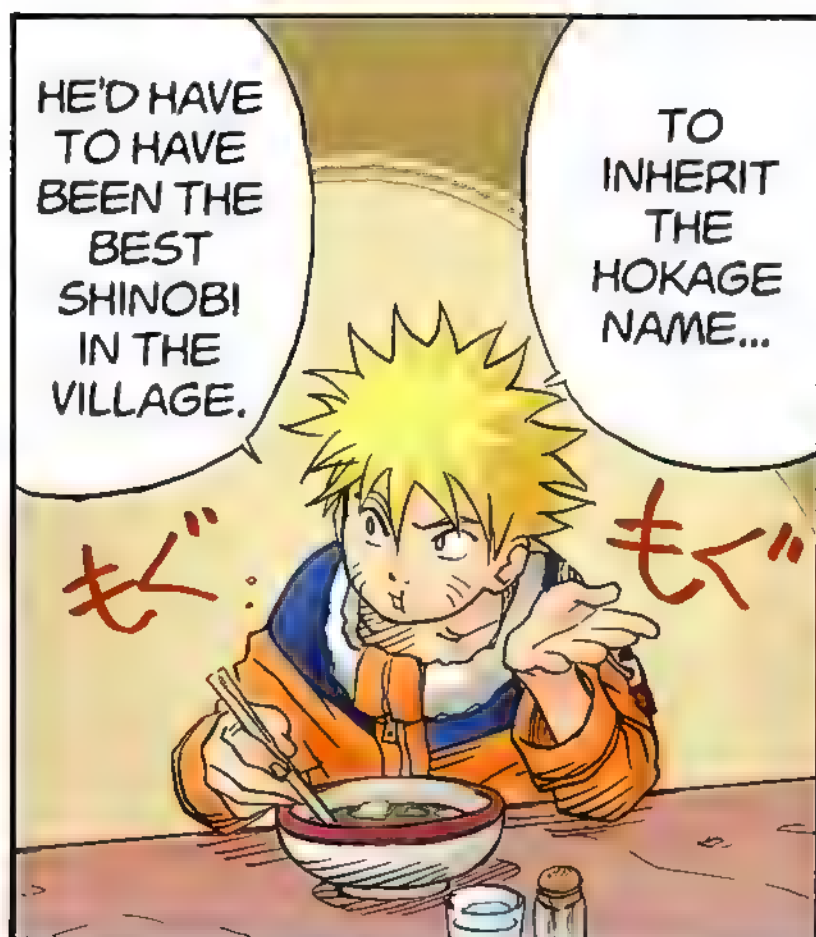


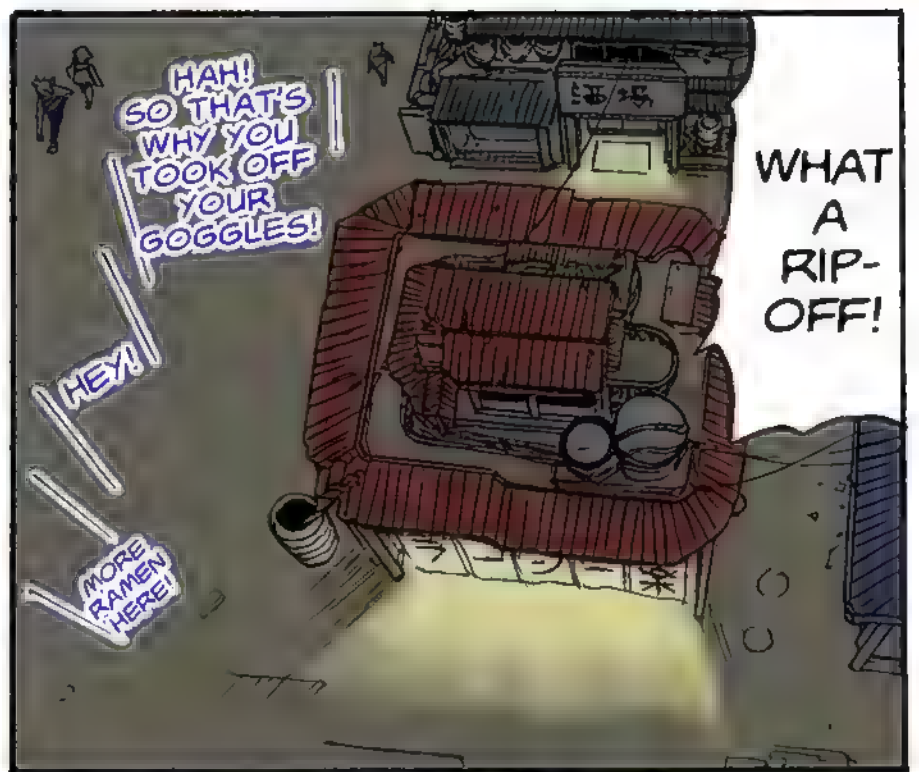
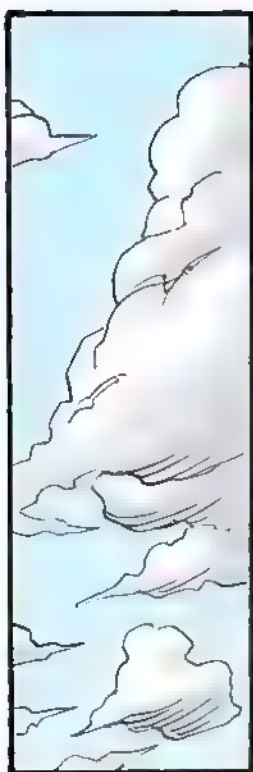
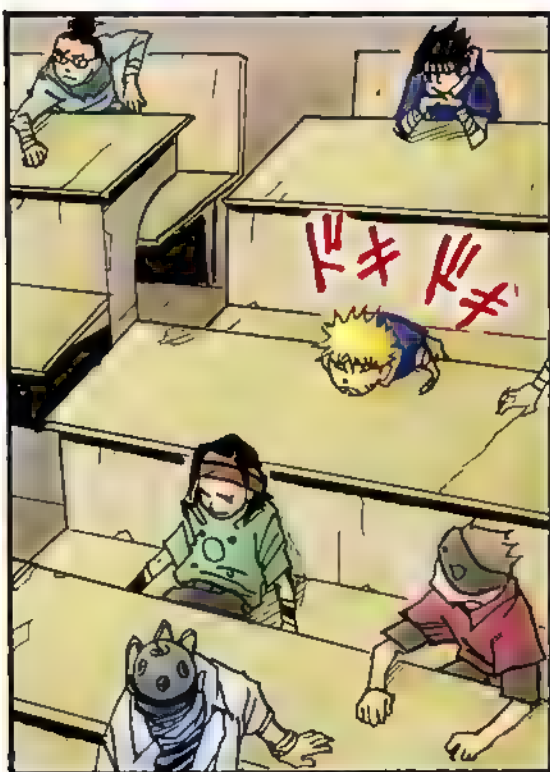
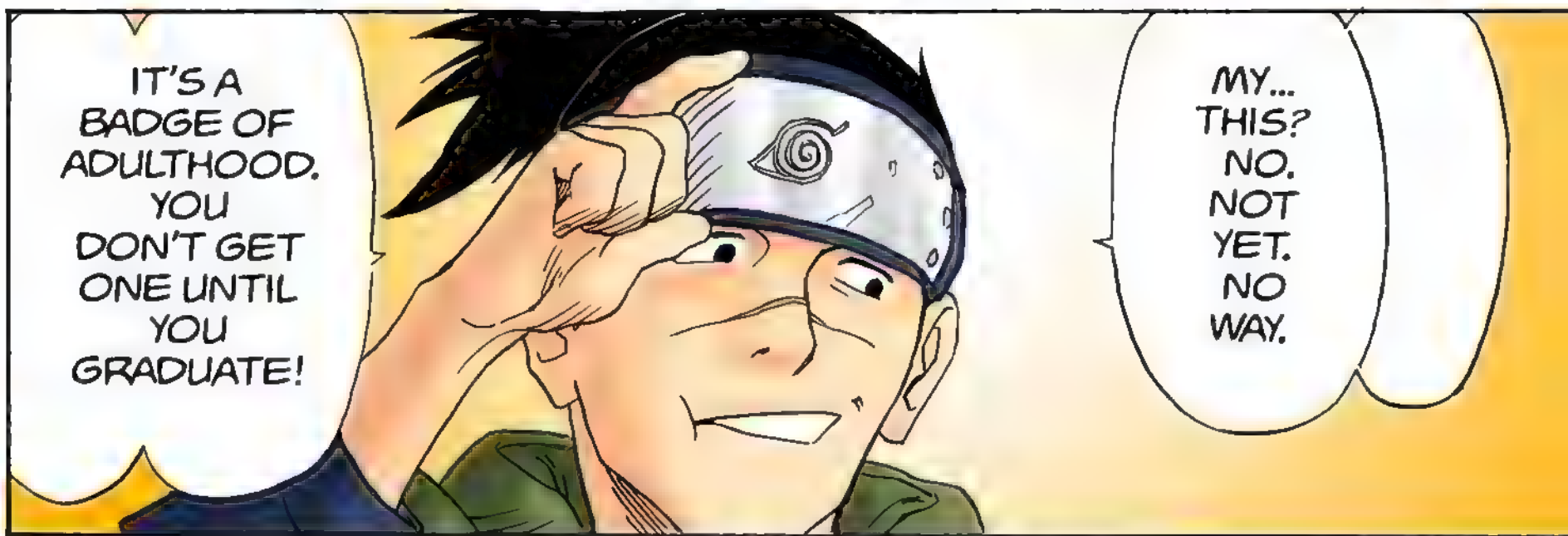


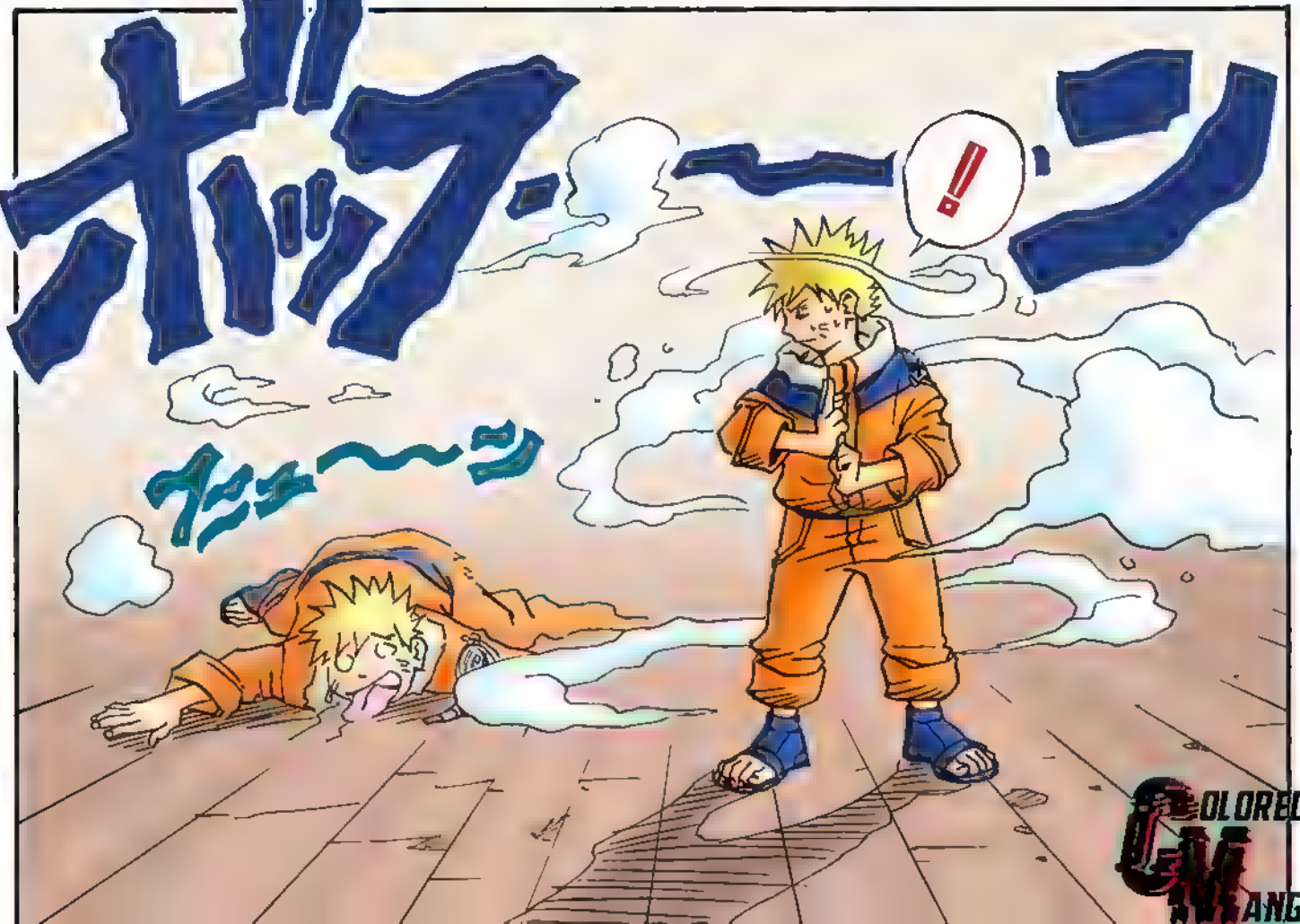
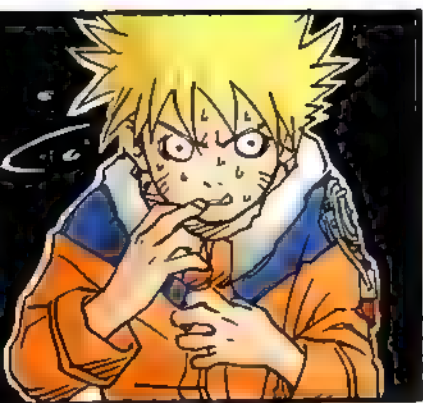
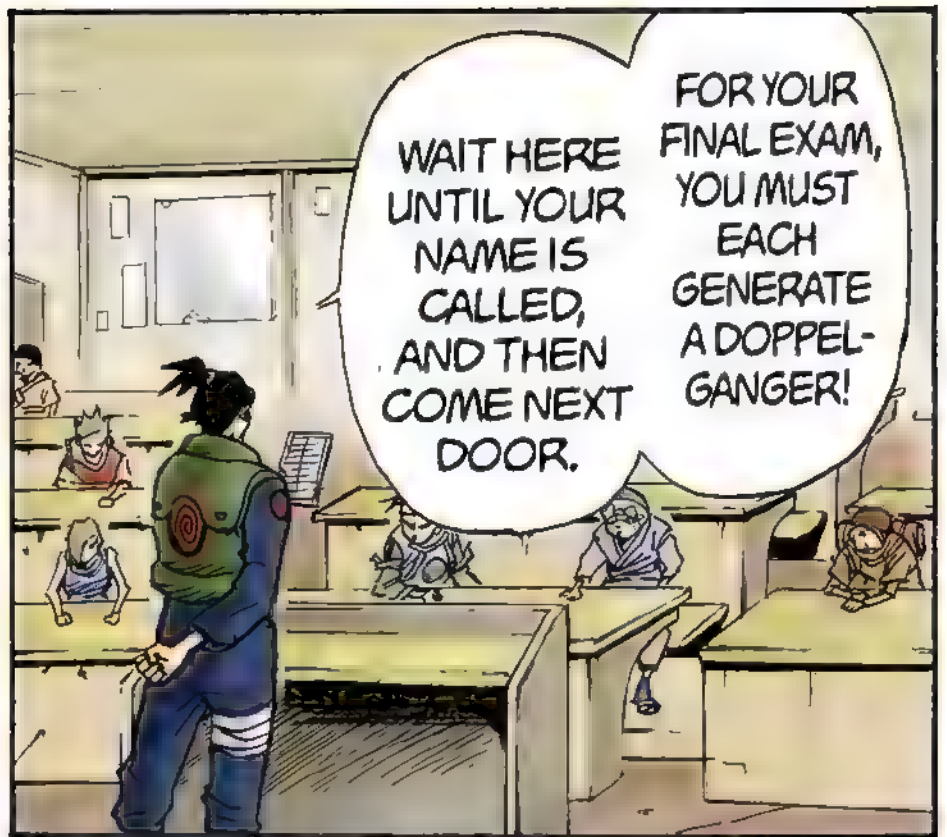
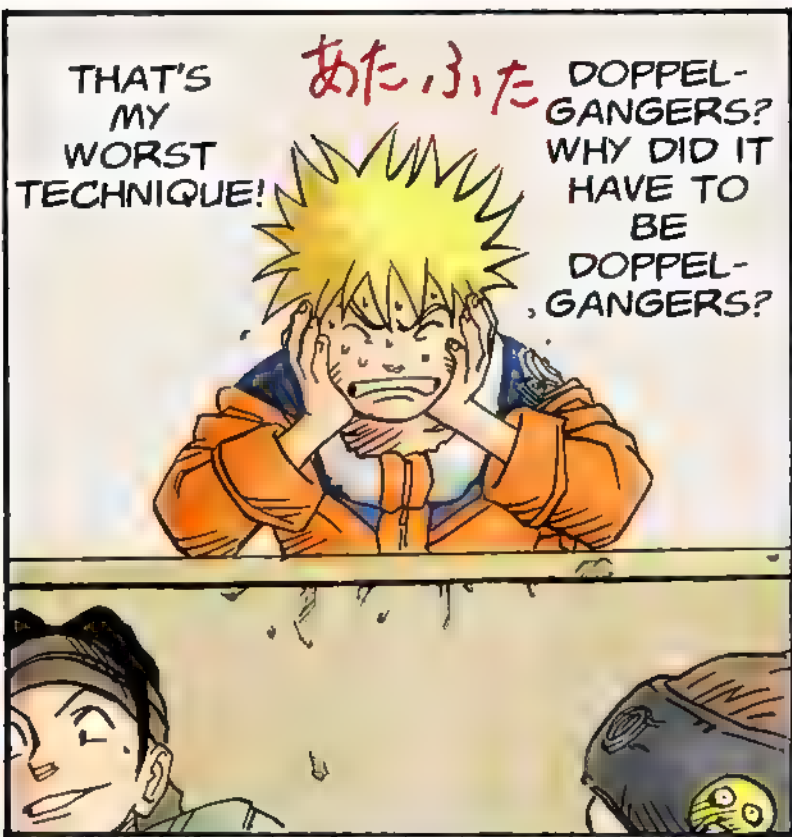


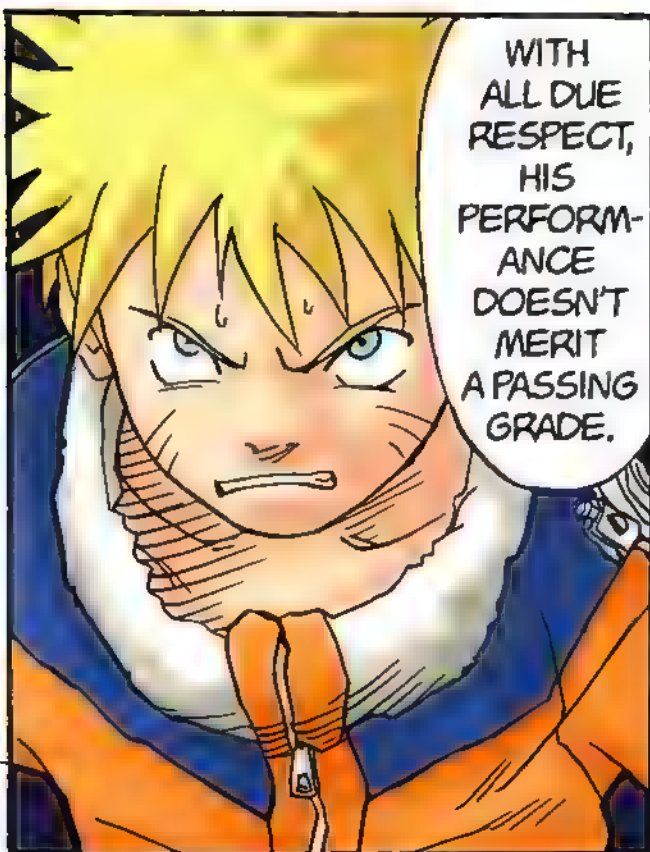
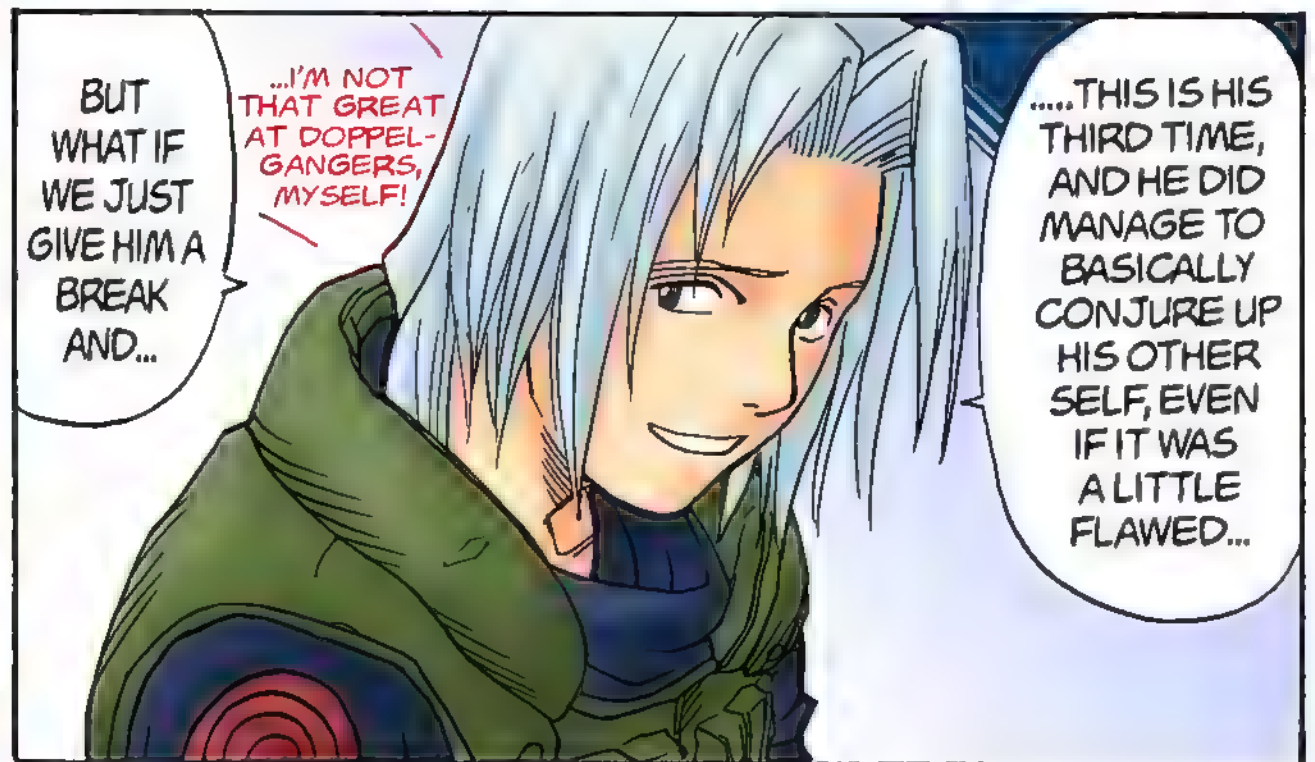
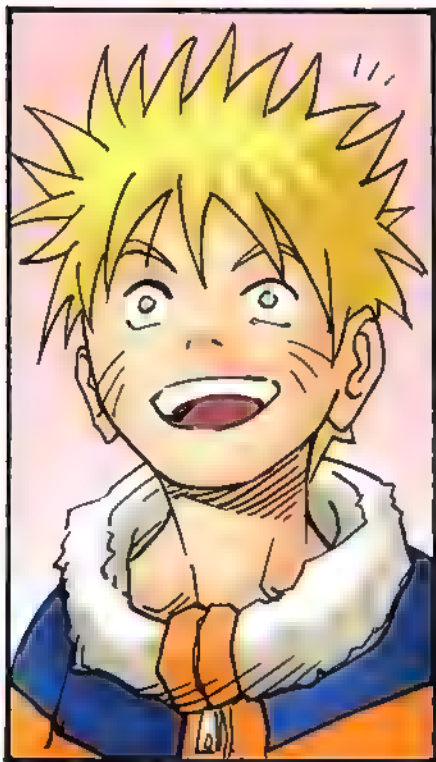


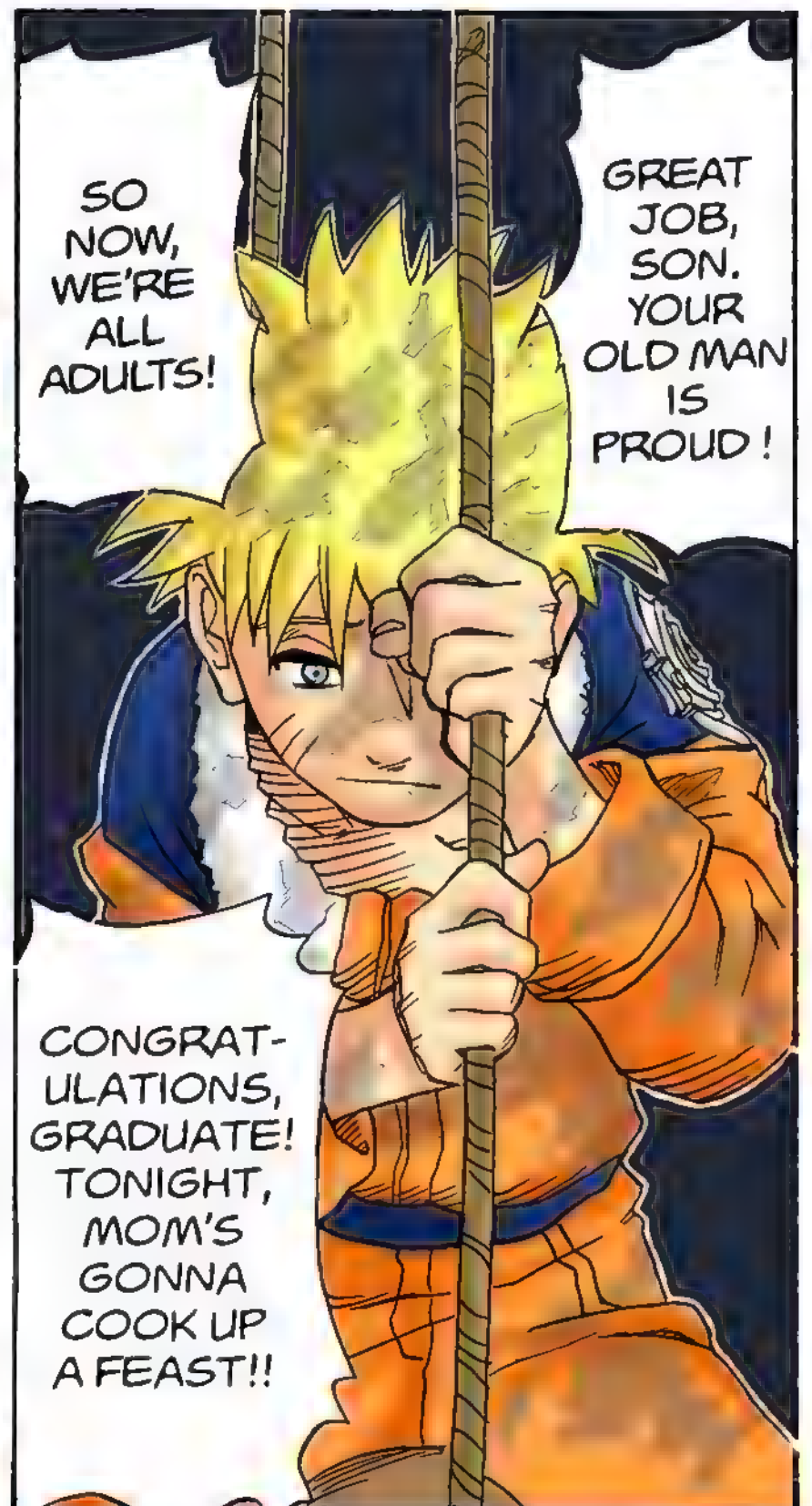
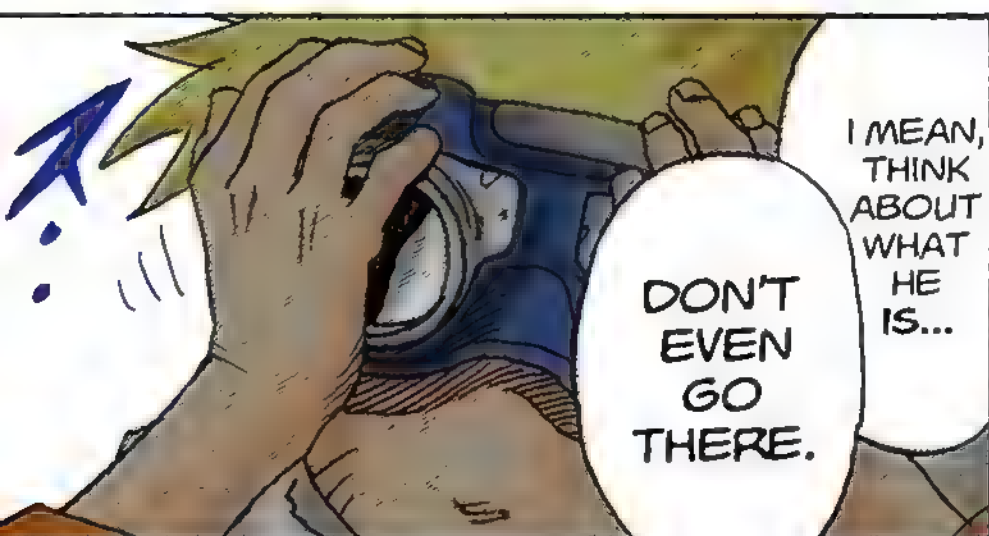
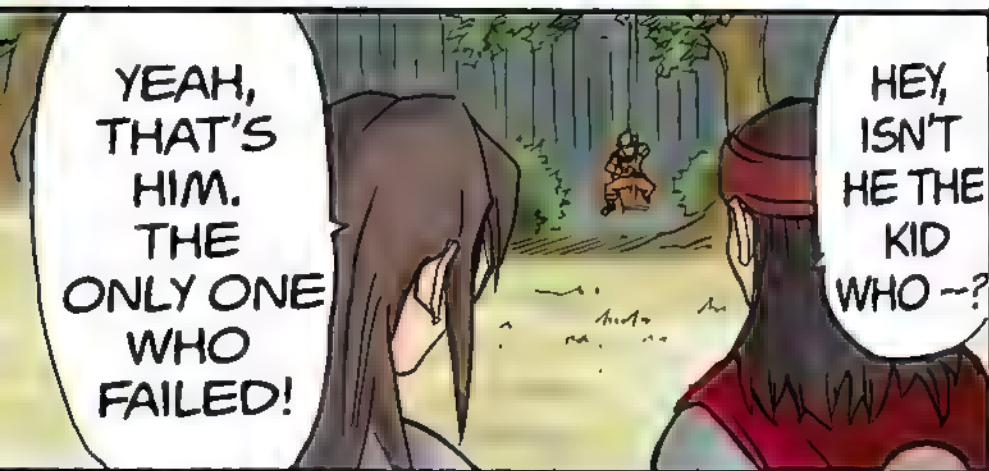


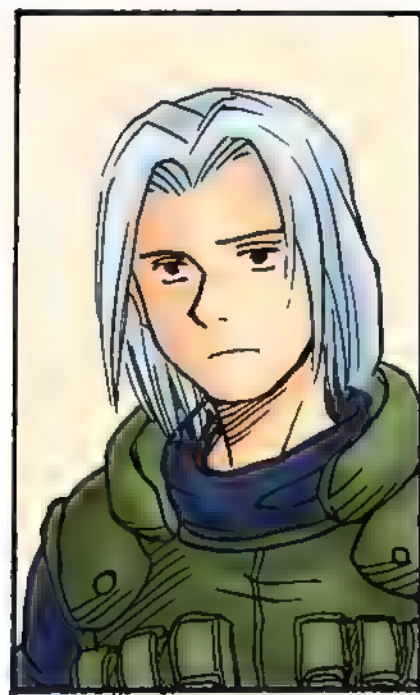
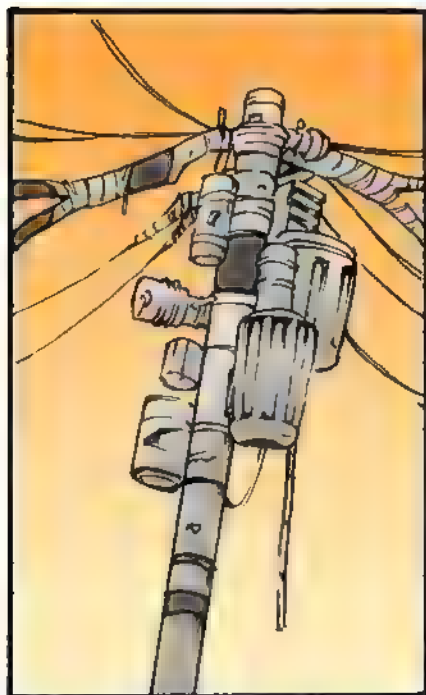
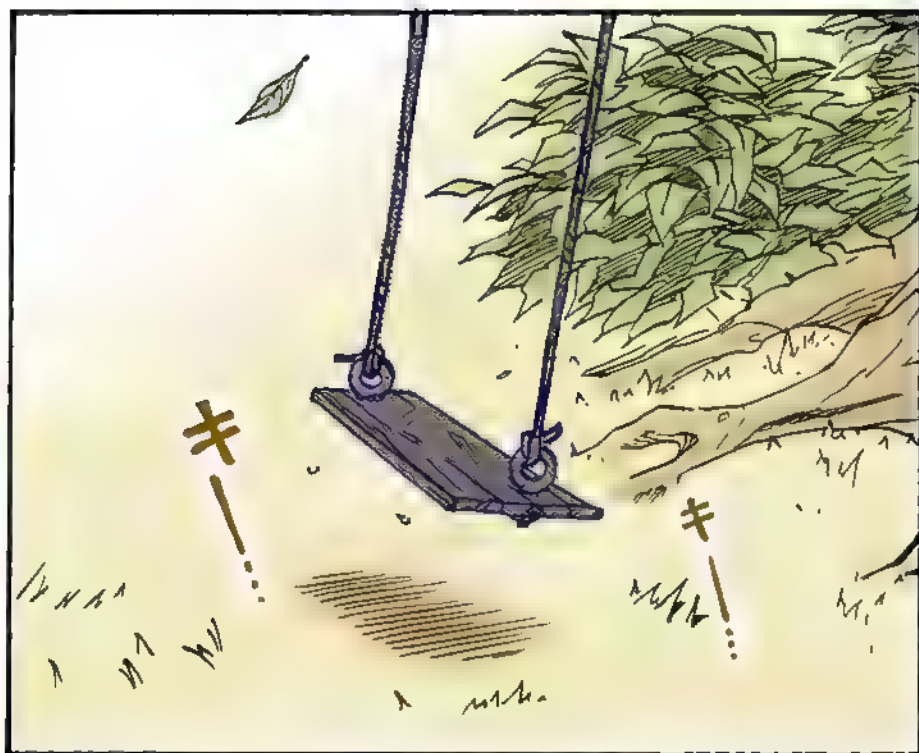
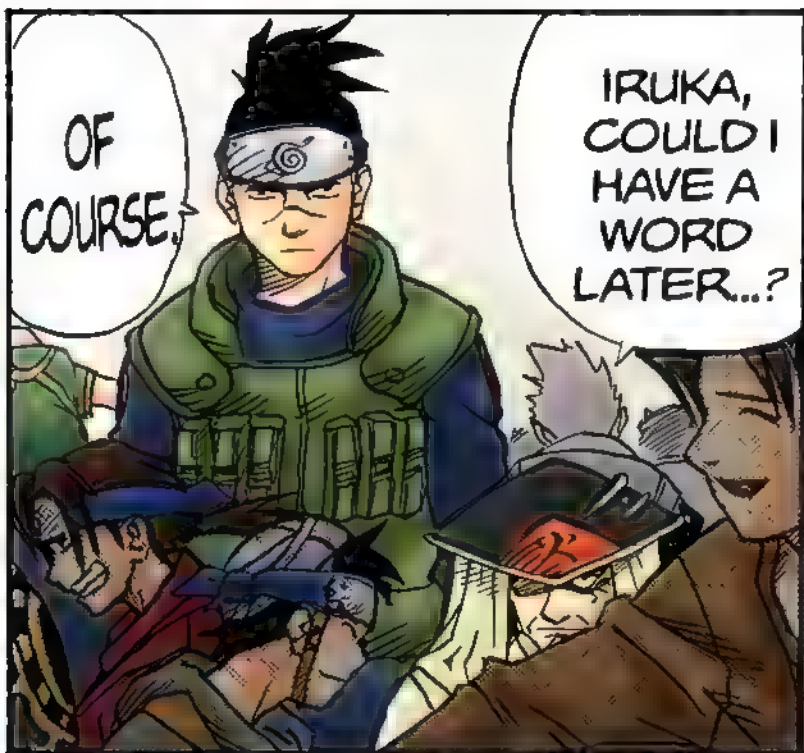


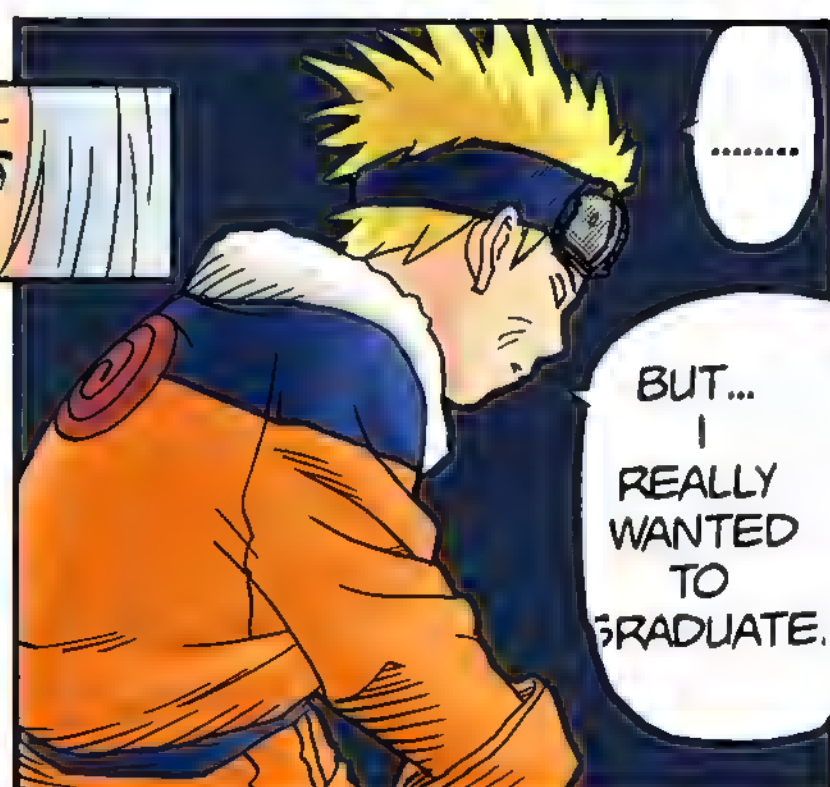
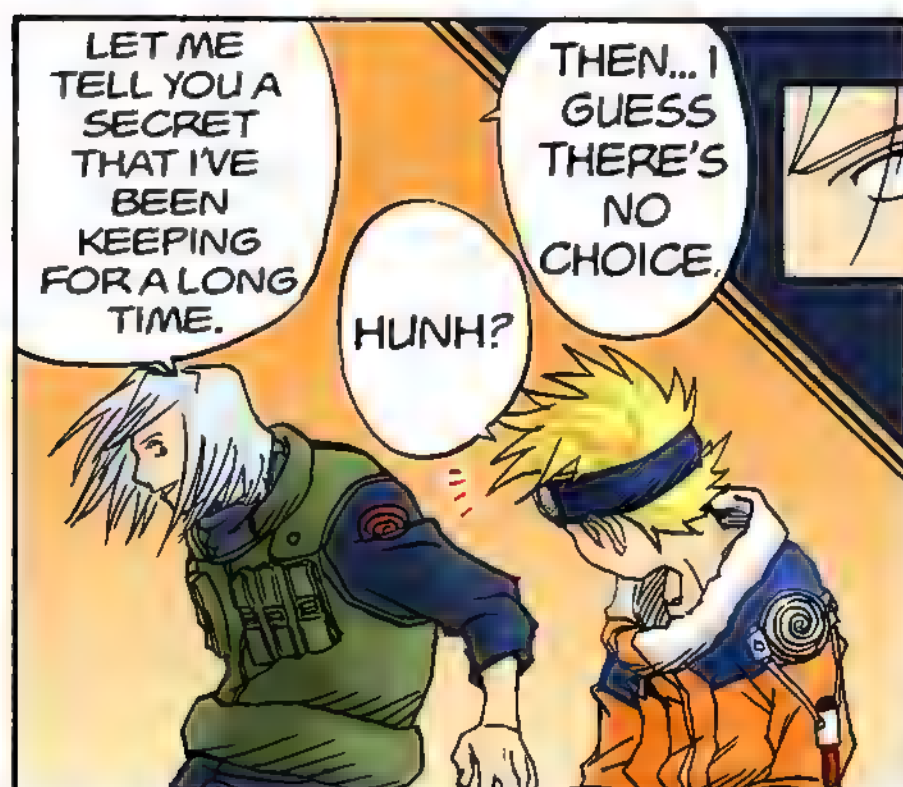
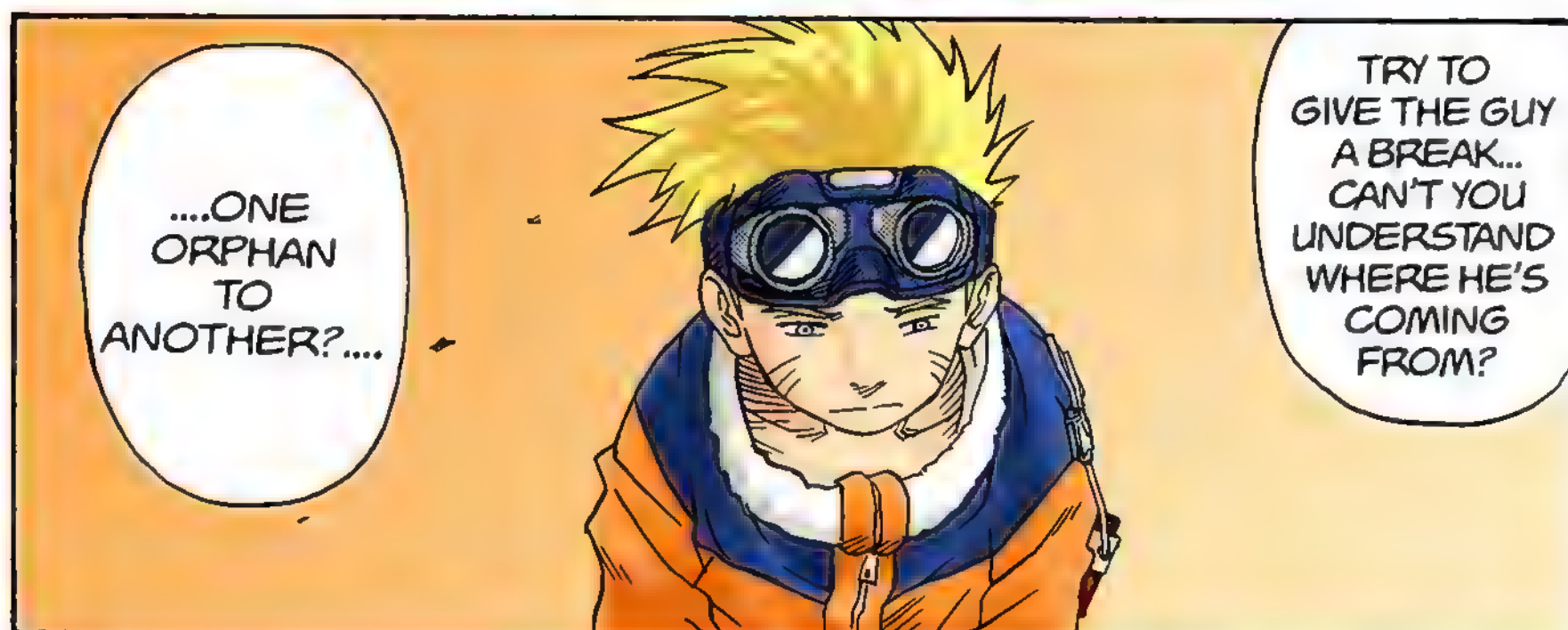
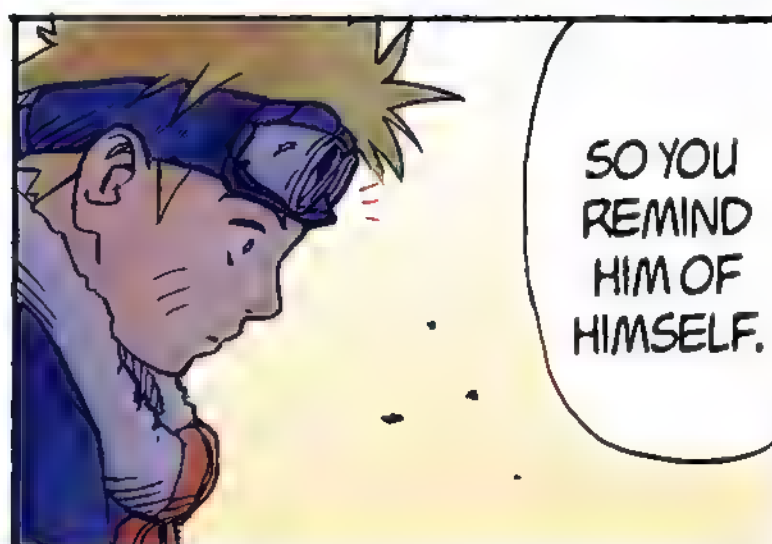


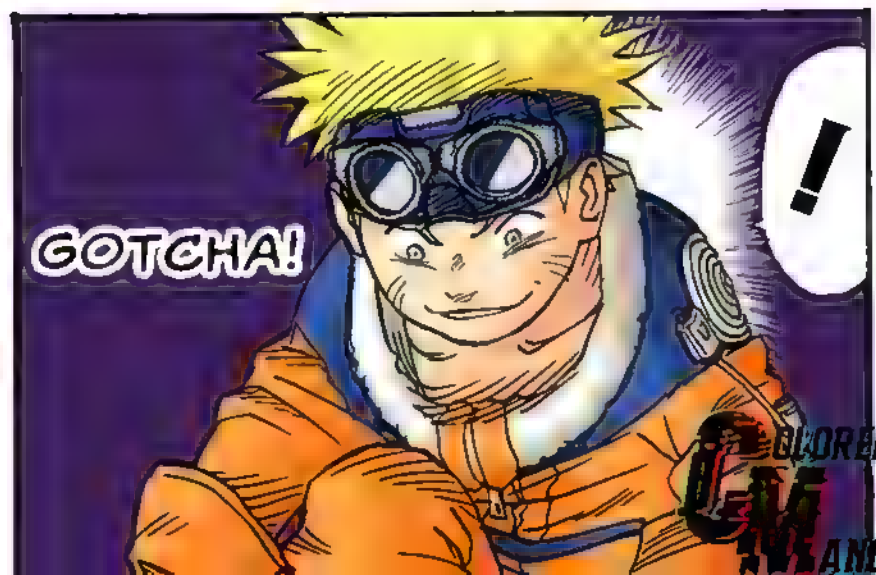
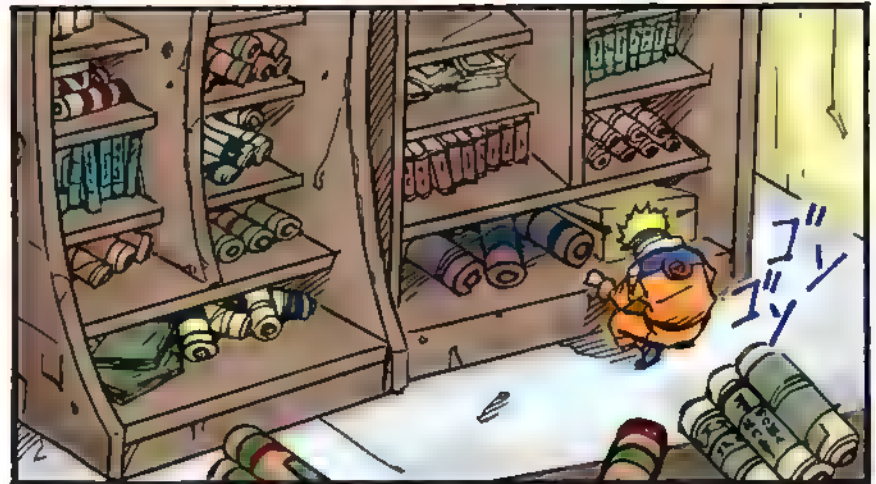
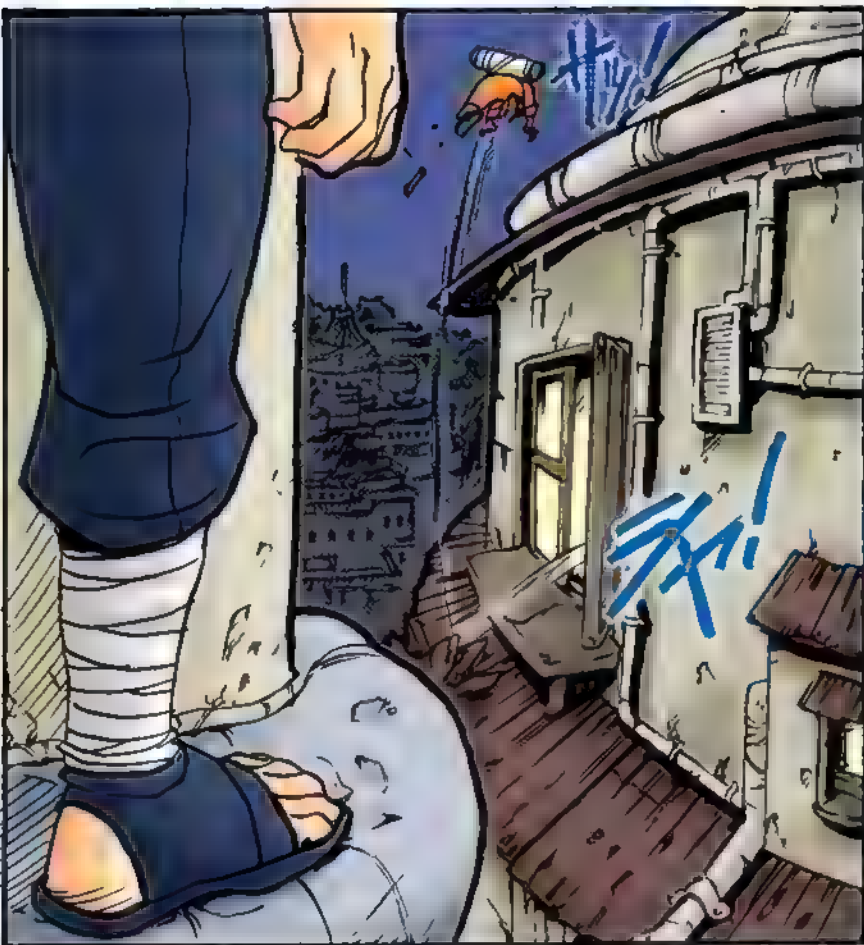
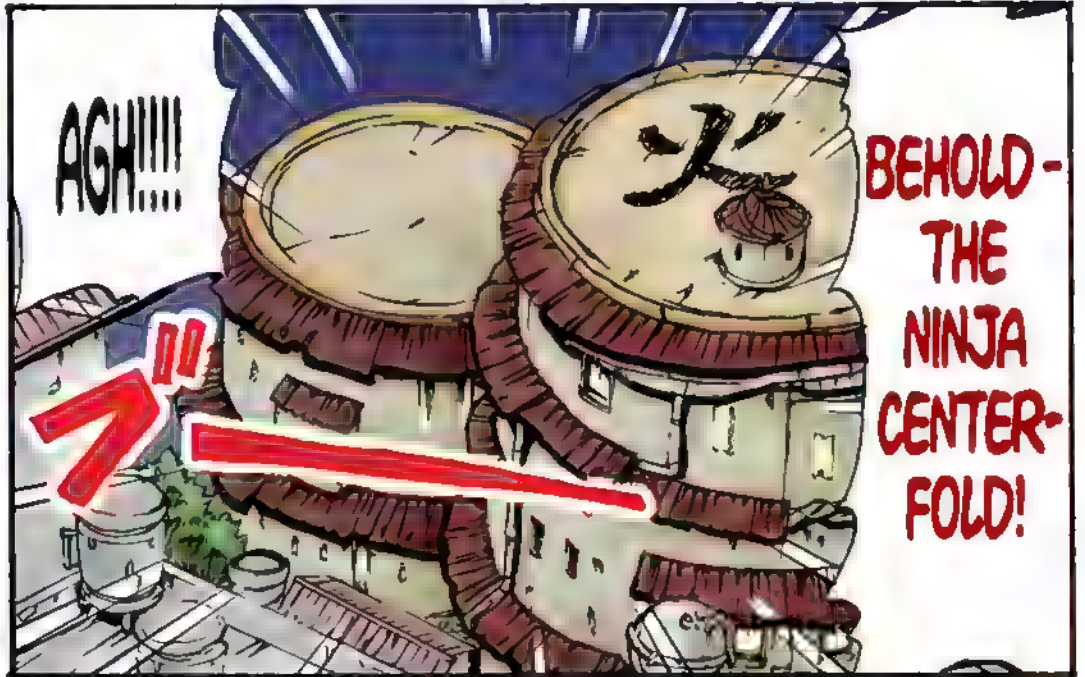
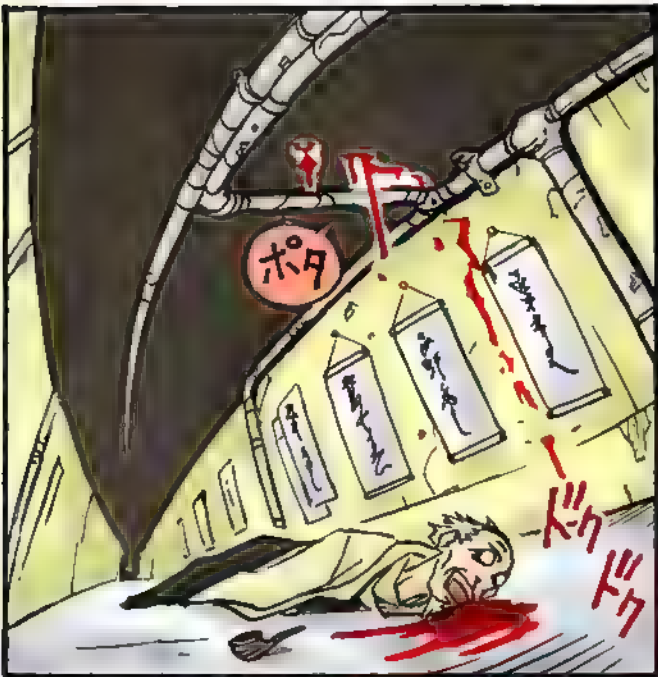
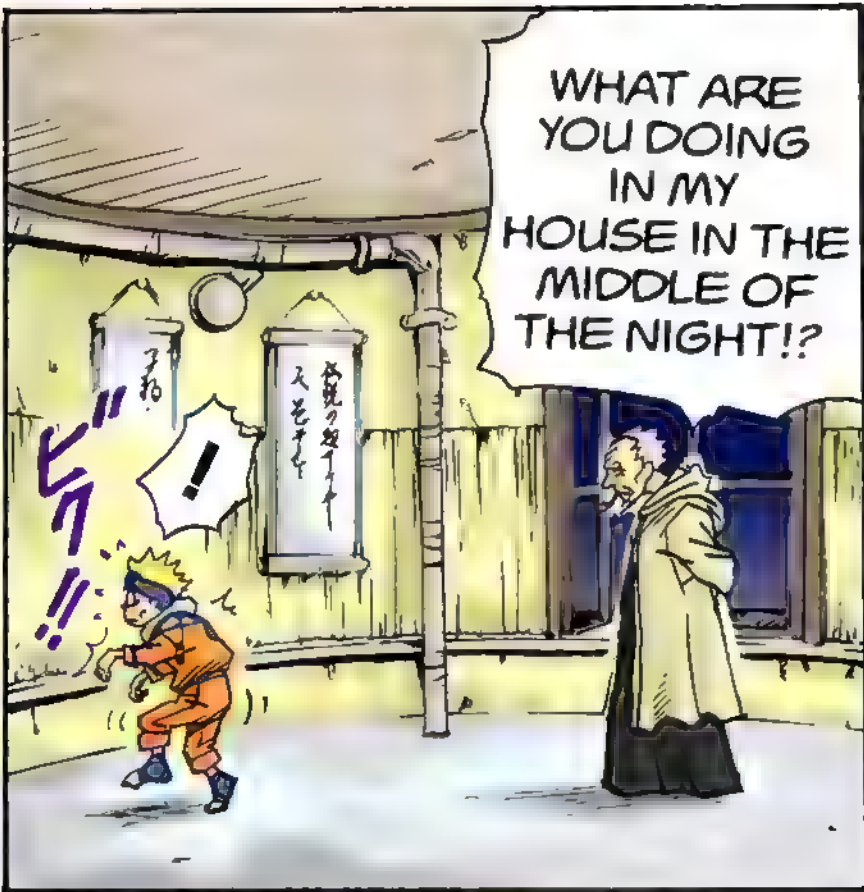
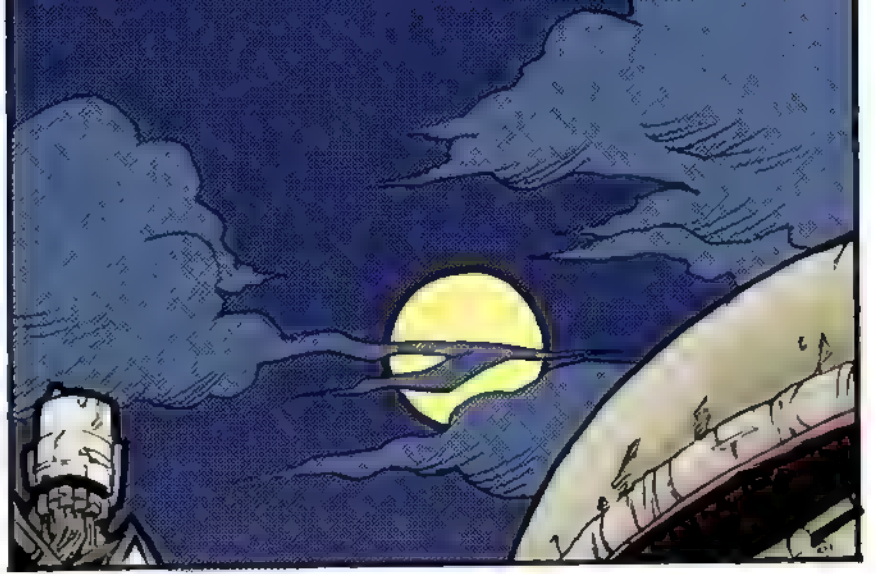


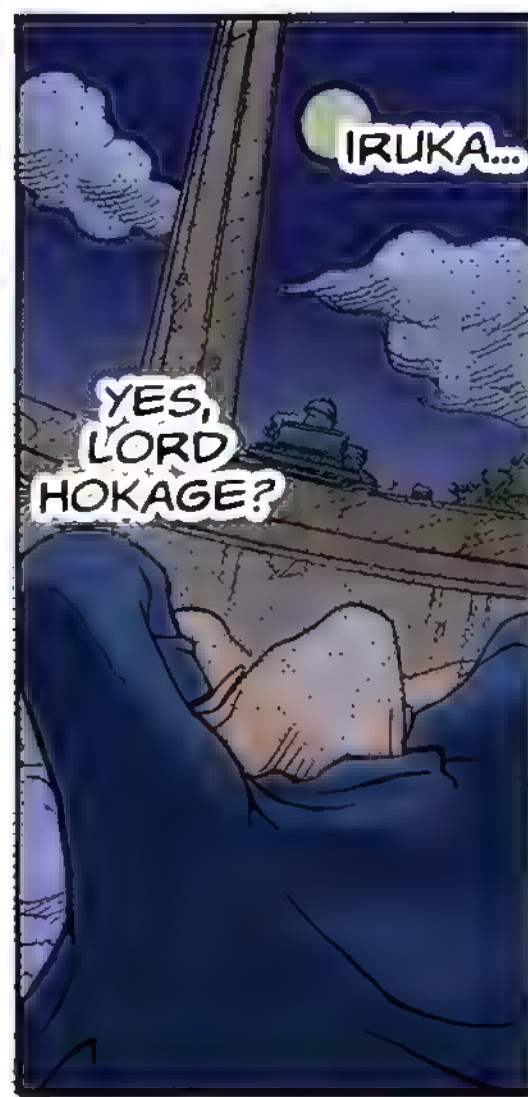
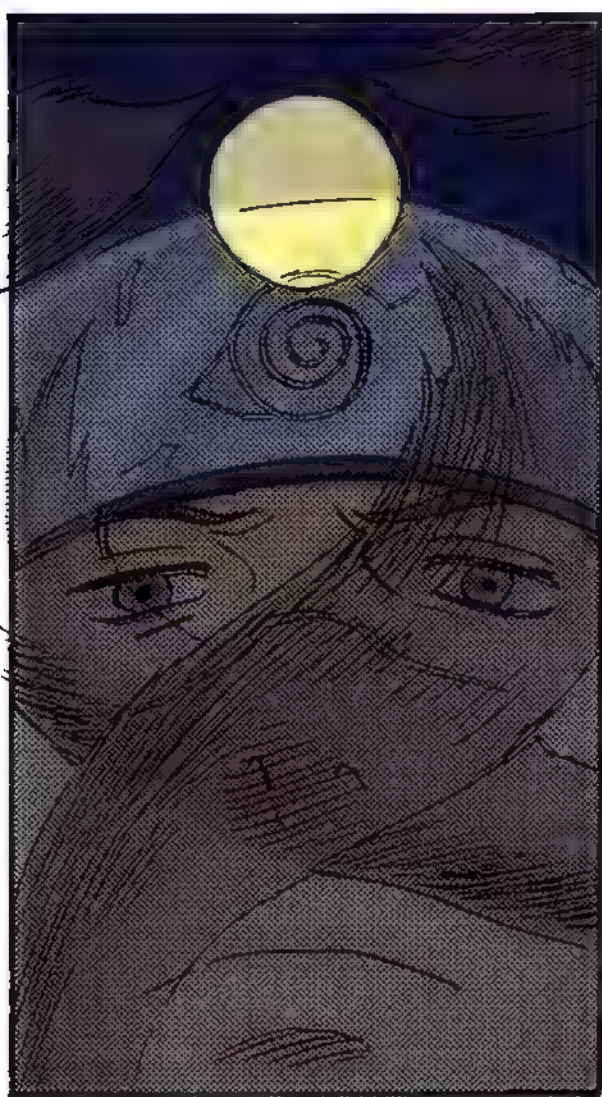
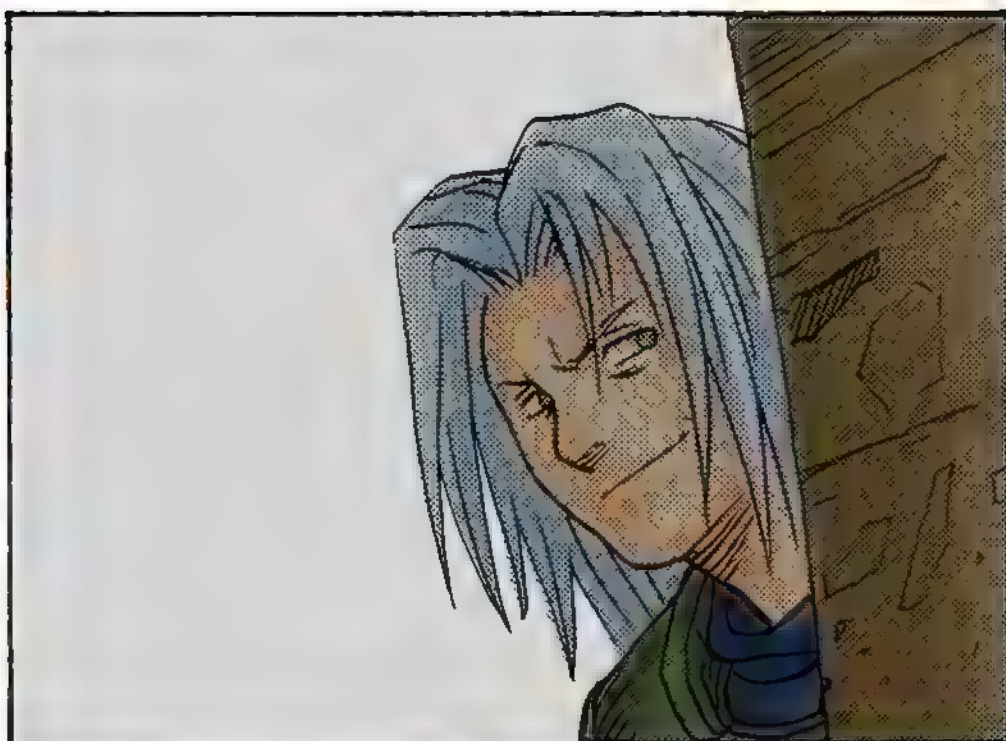
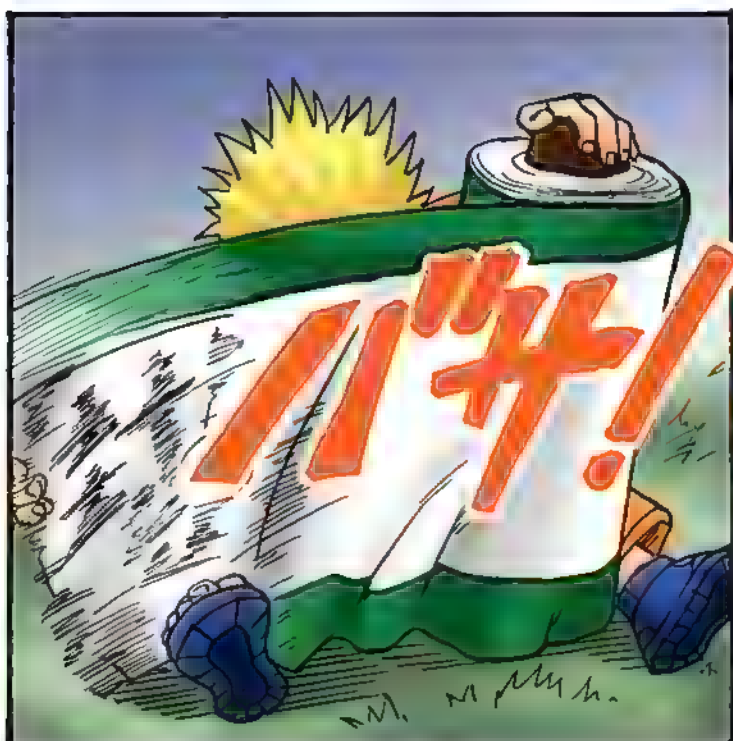






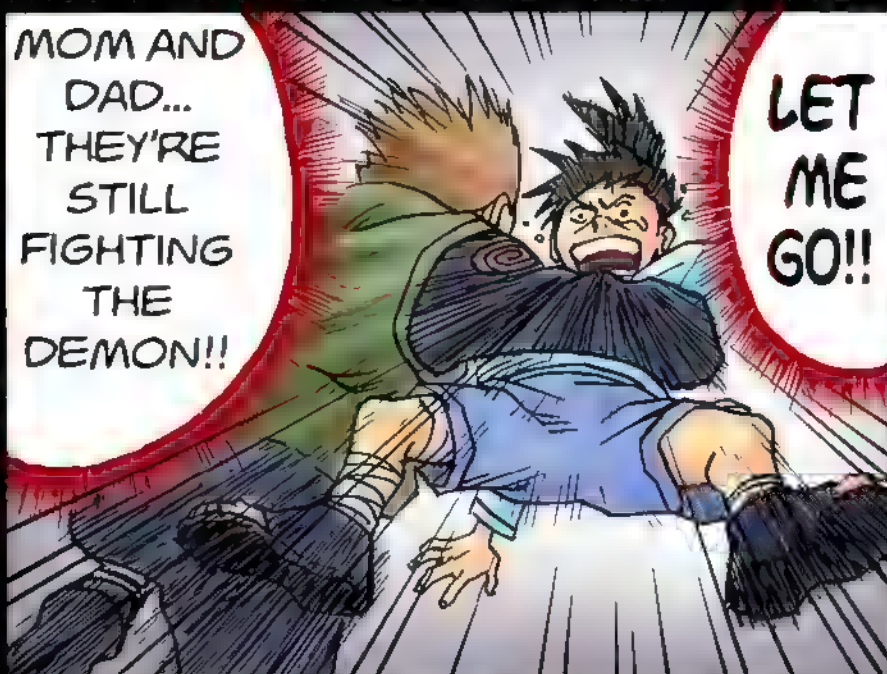








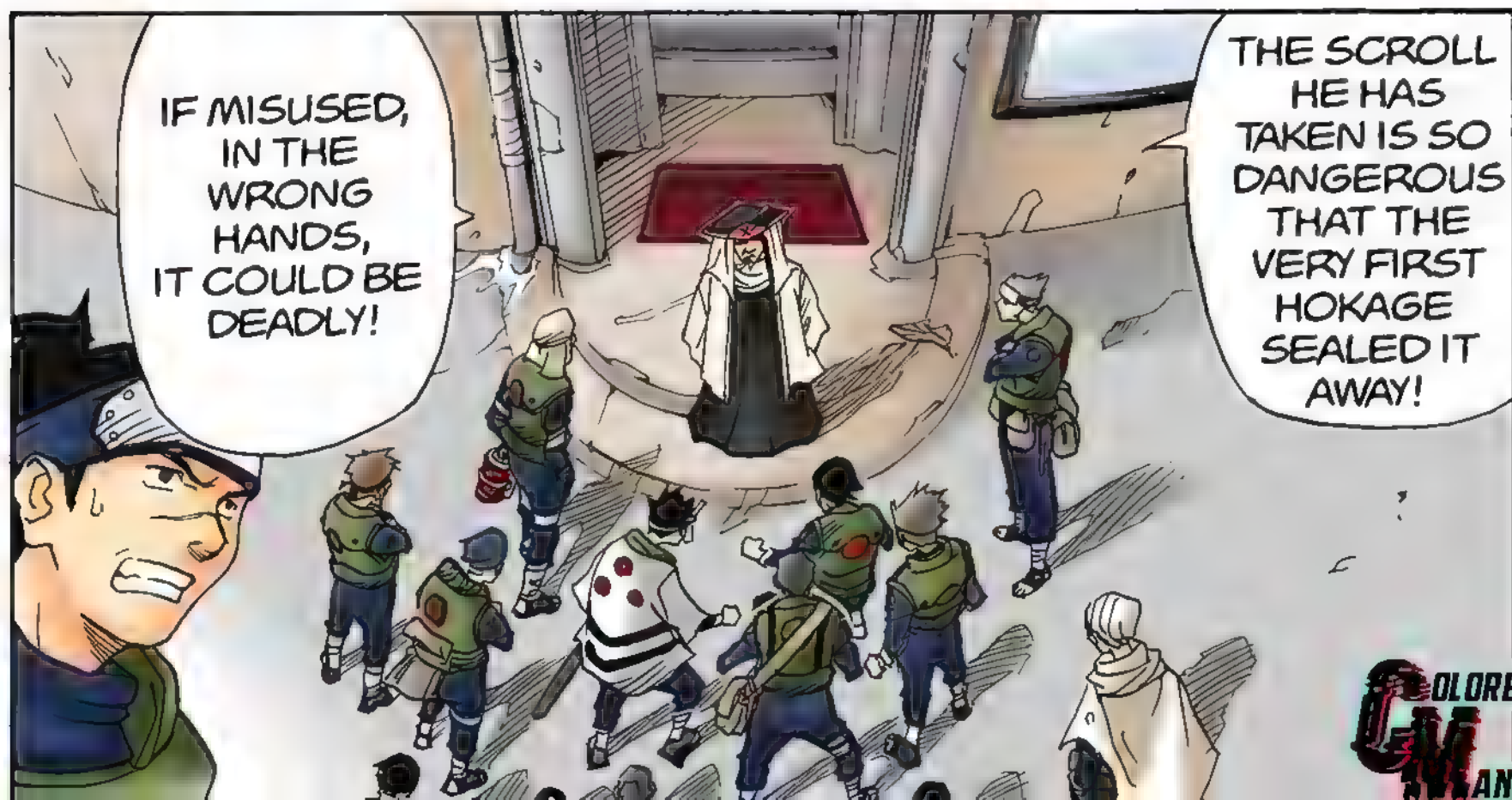
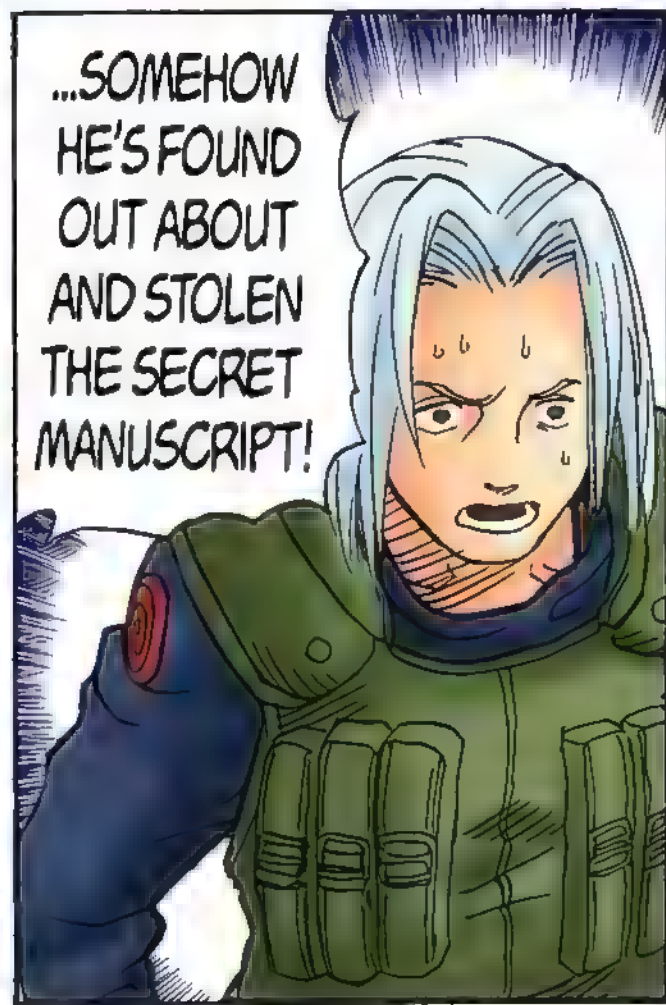
MOM AND
DAD...
THEY'RE
STILL
FIGHTING
THE
DEMON!!

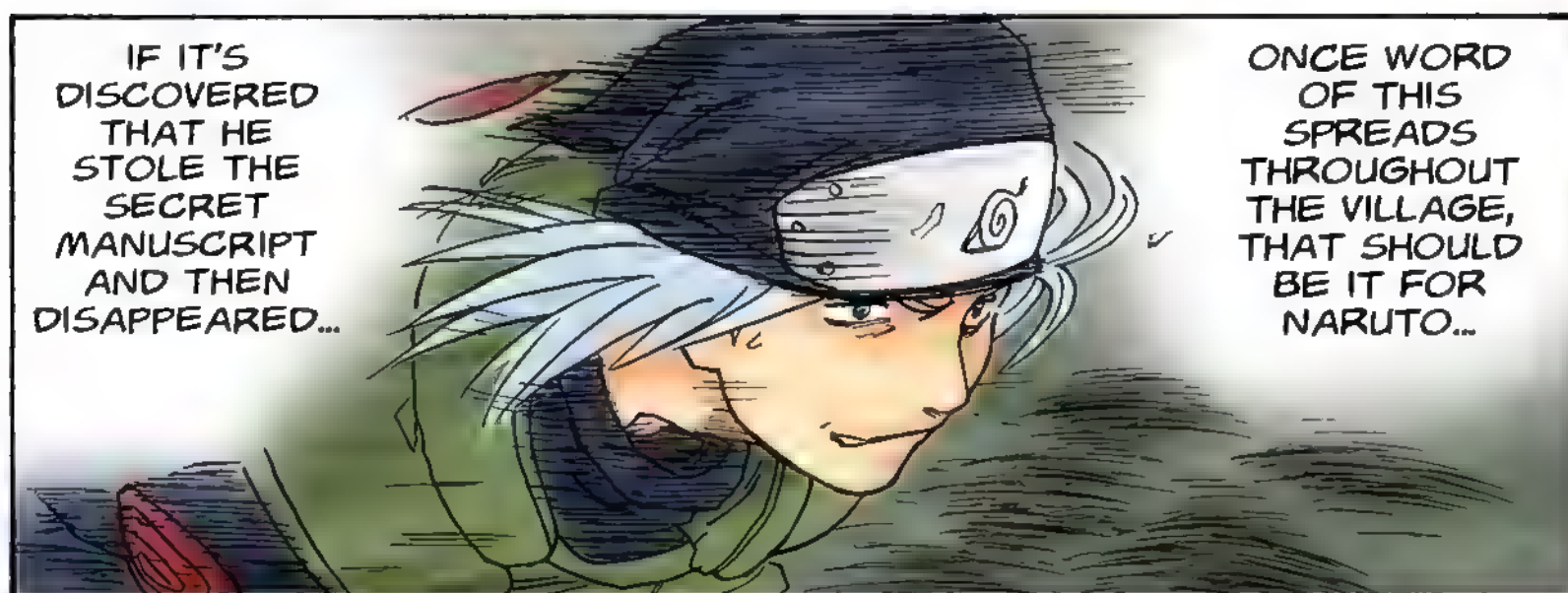
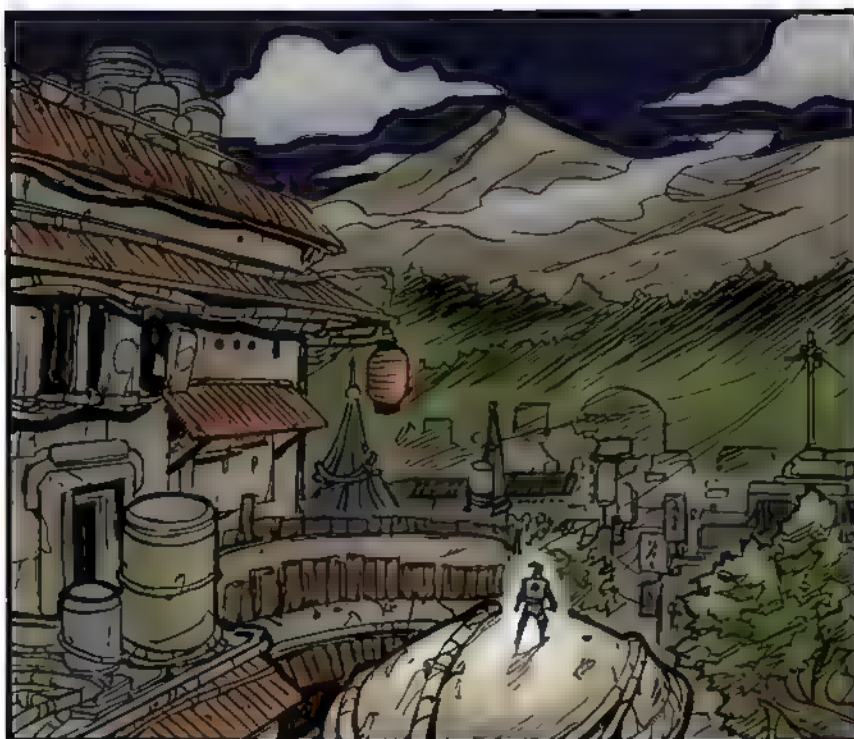


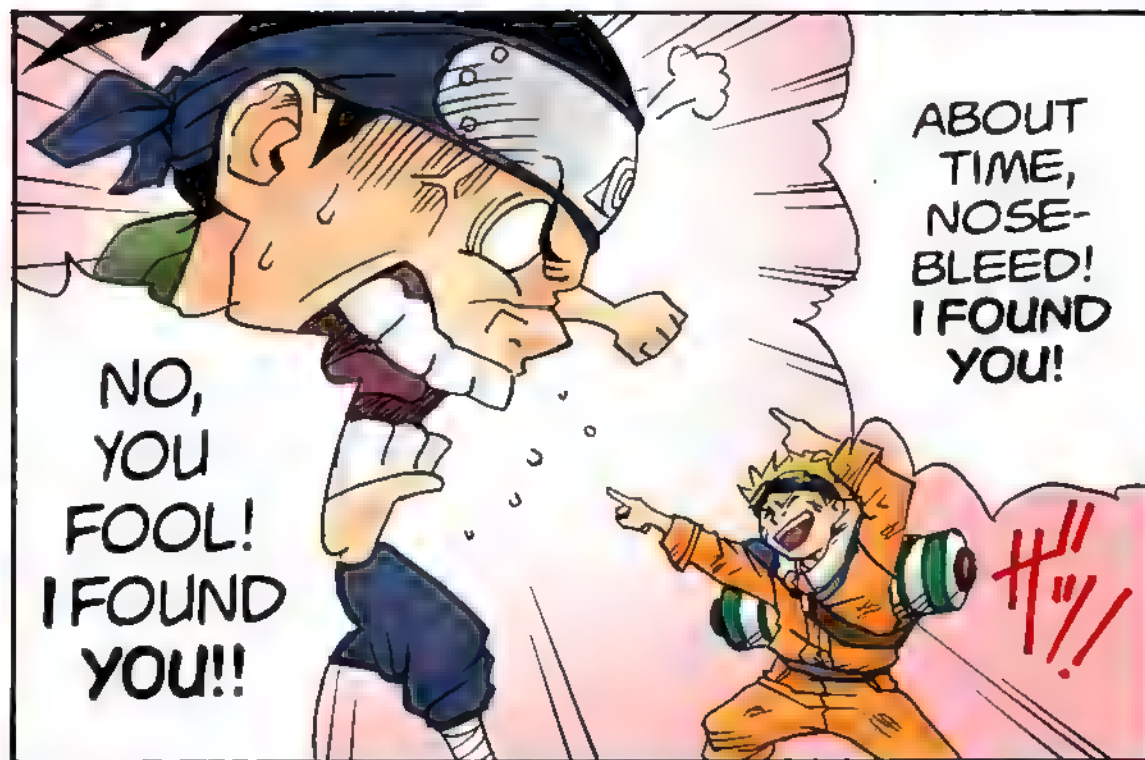
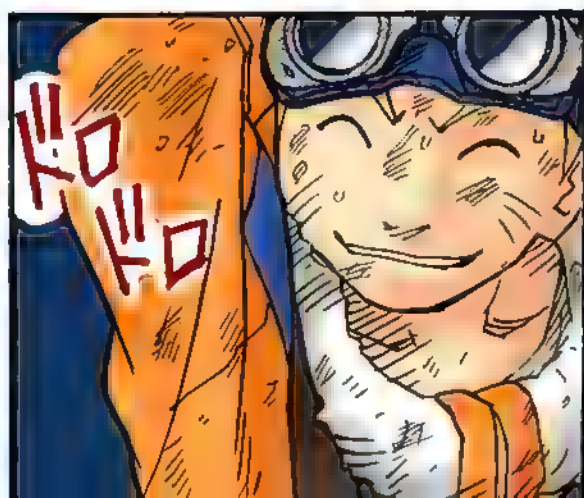
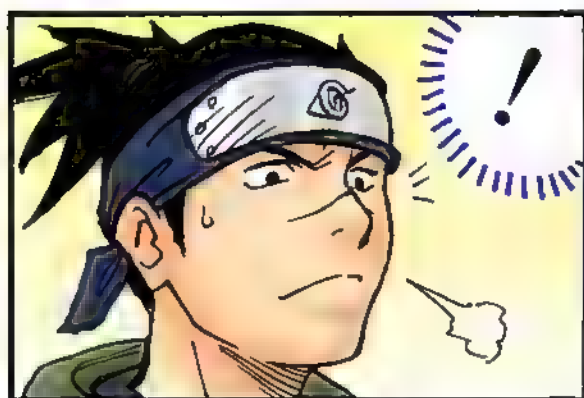
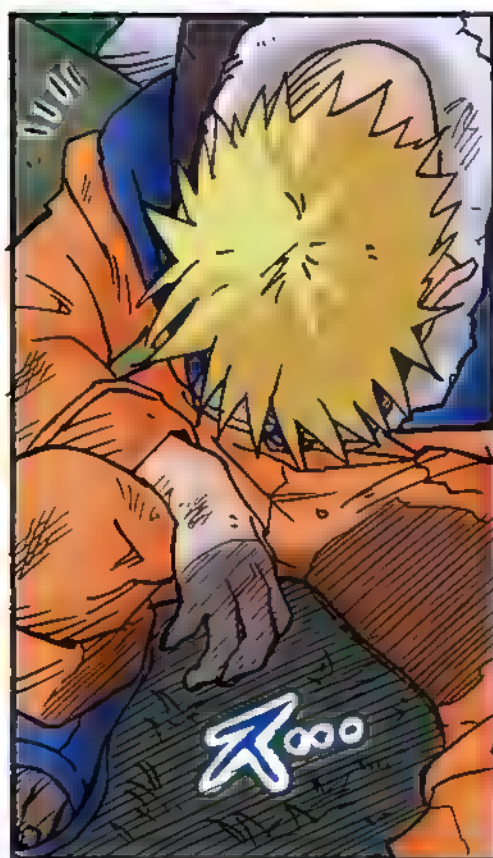
LET
ME
GO!!

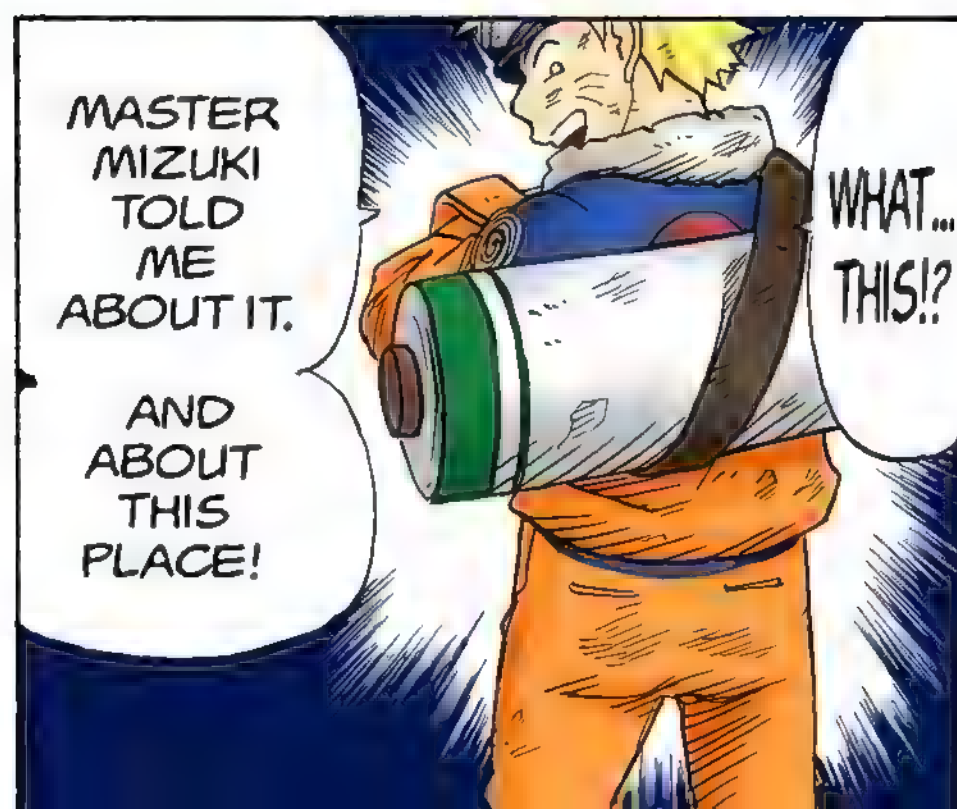


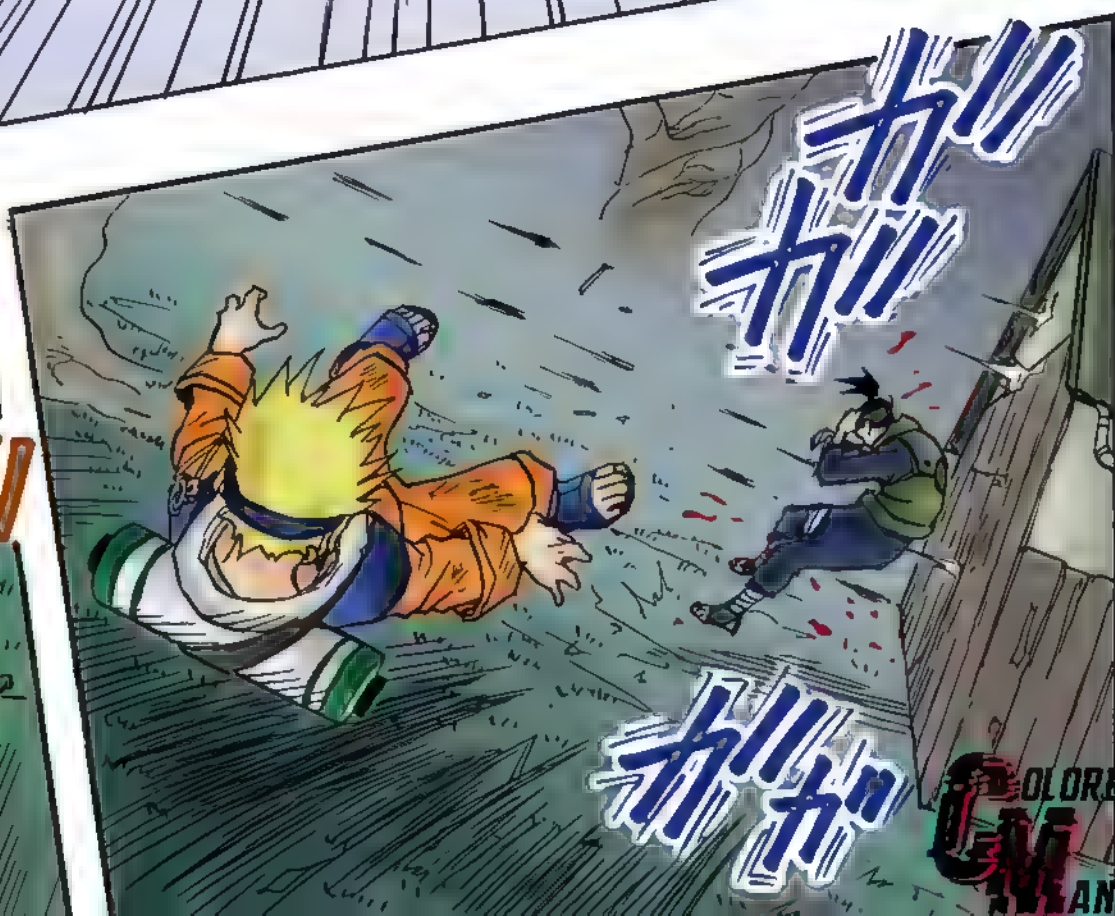
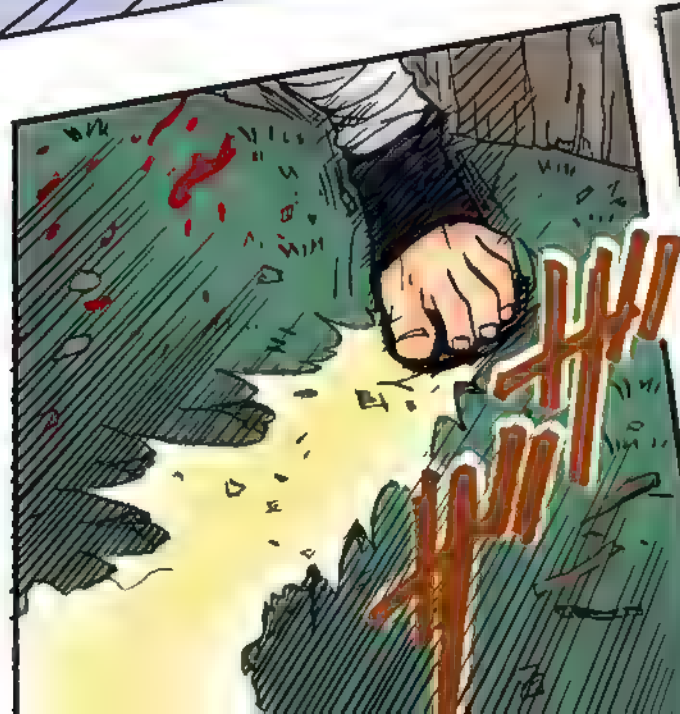
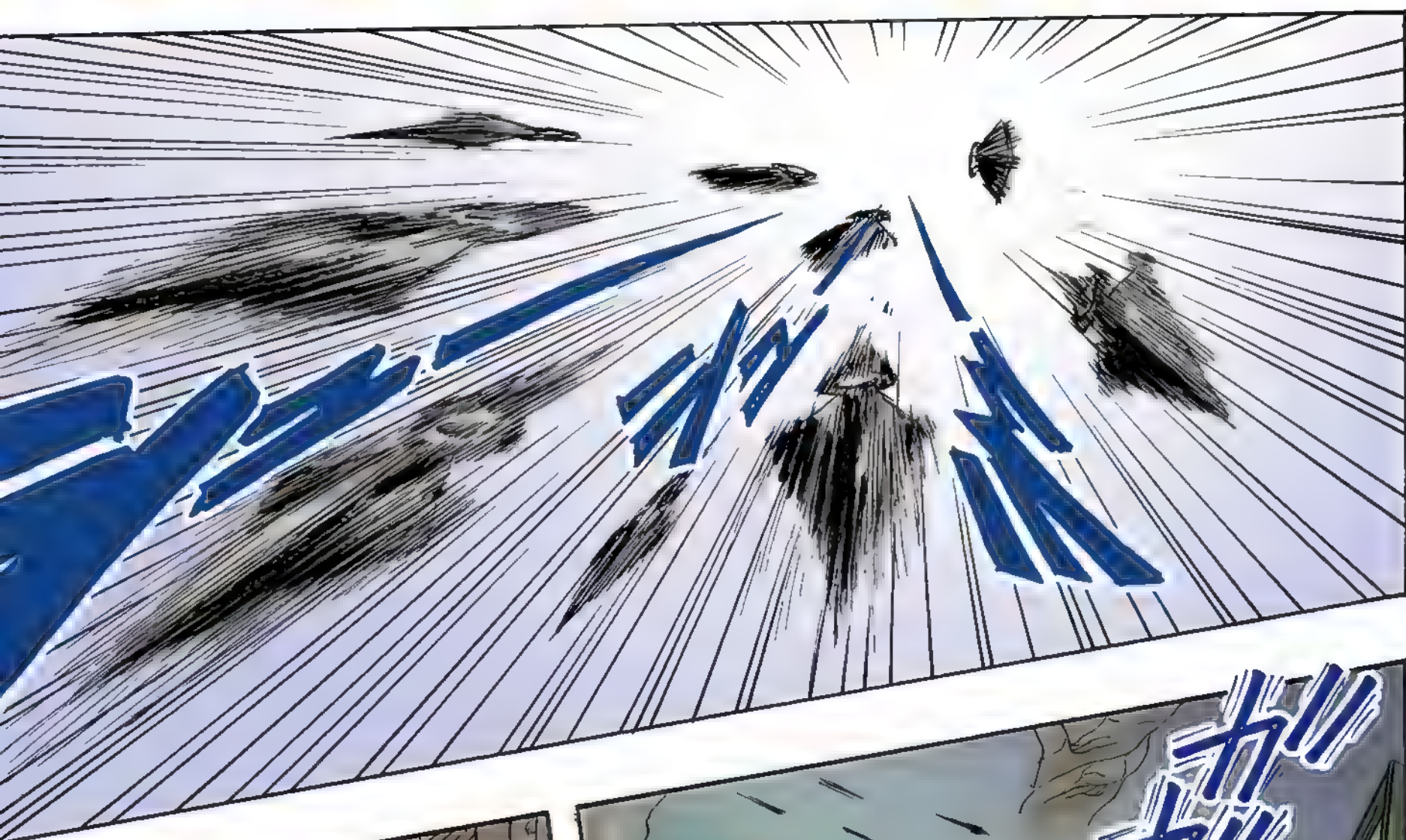
WE'VE GOT TO
HOLD ON UNTIL
LORD HOKAGE
GETS HERE!

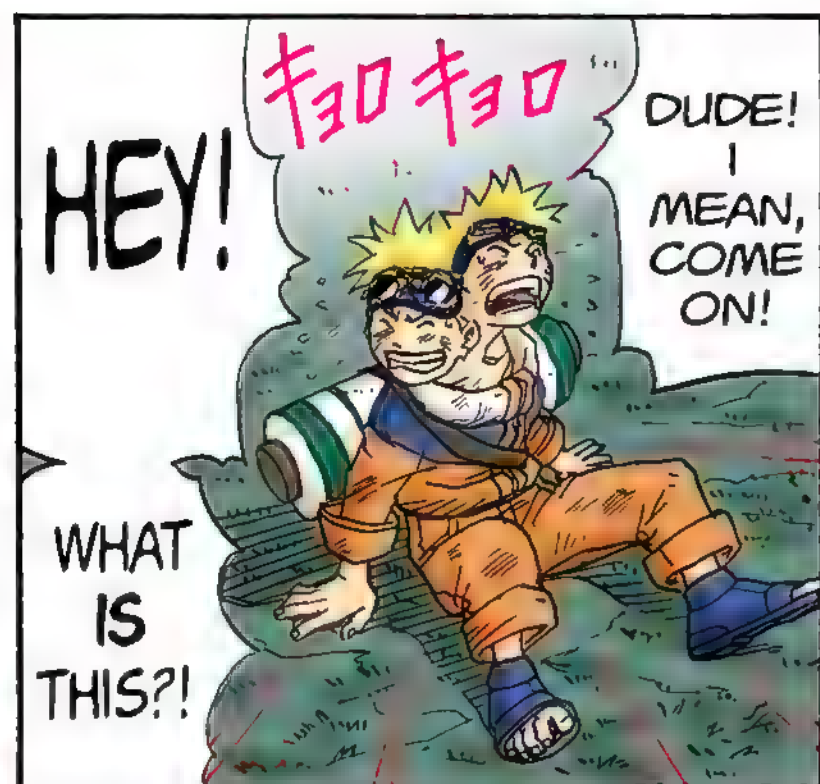
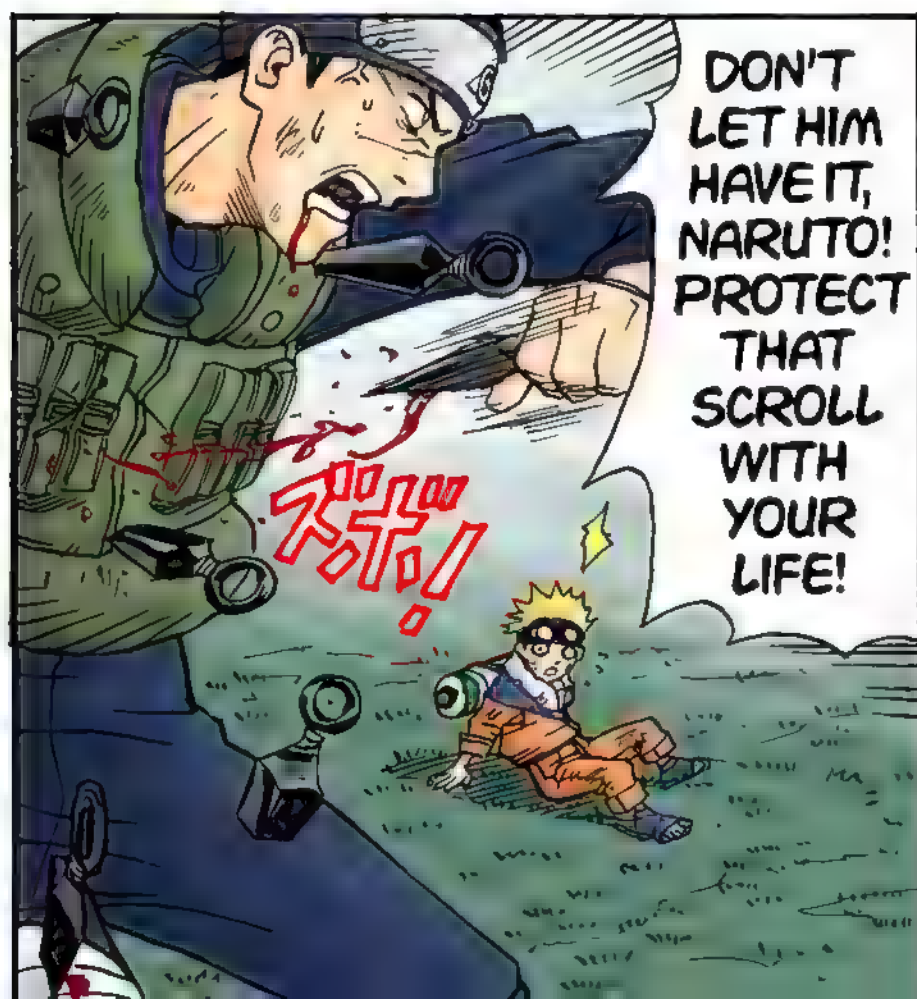
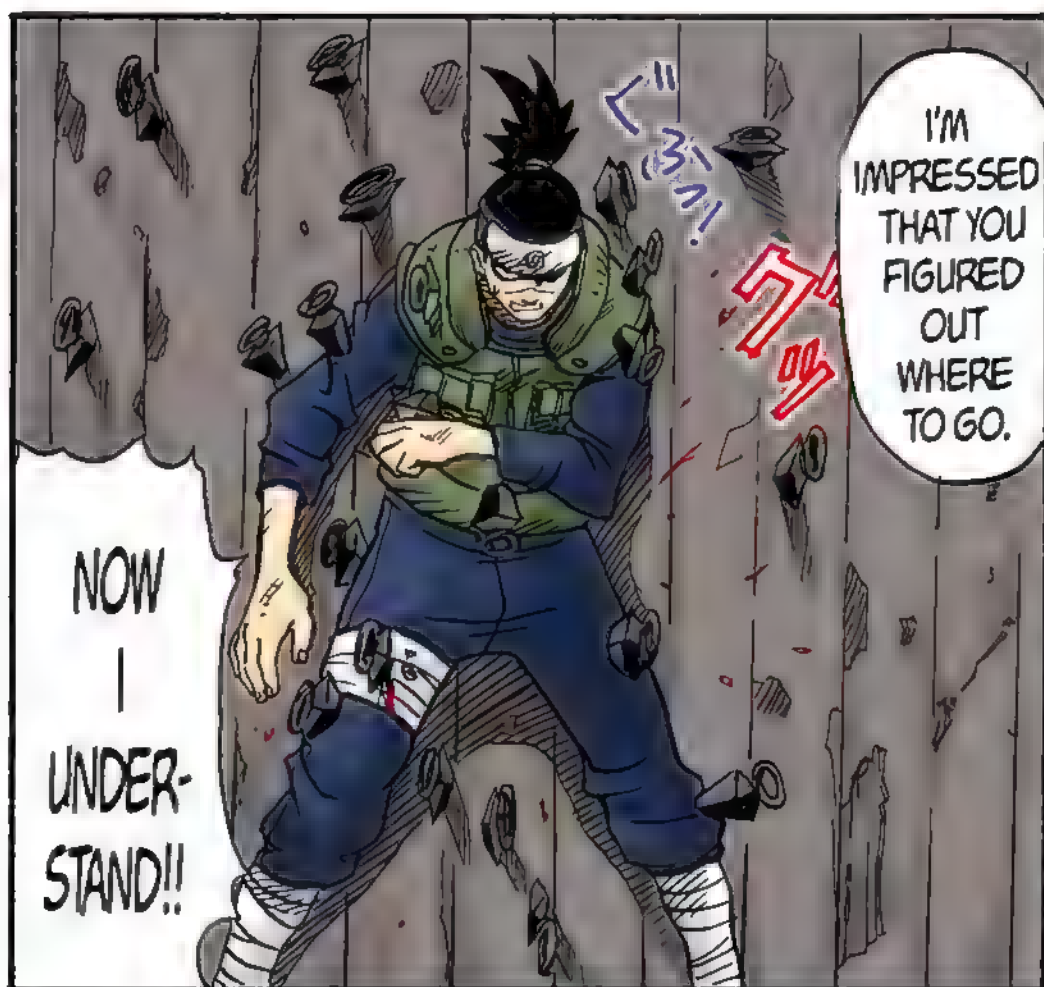


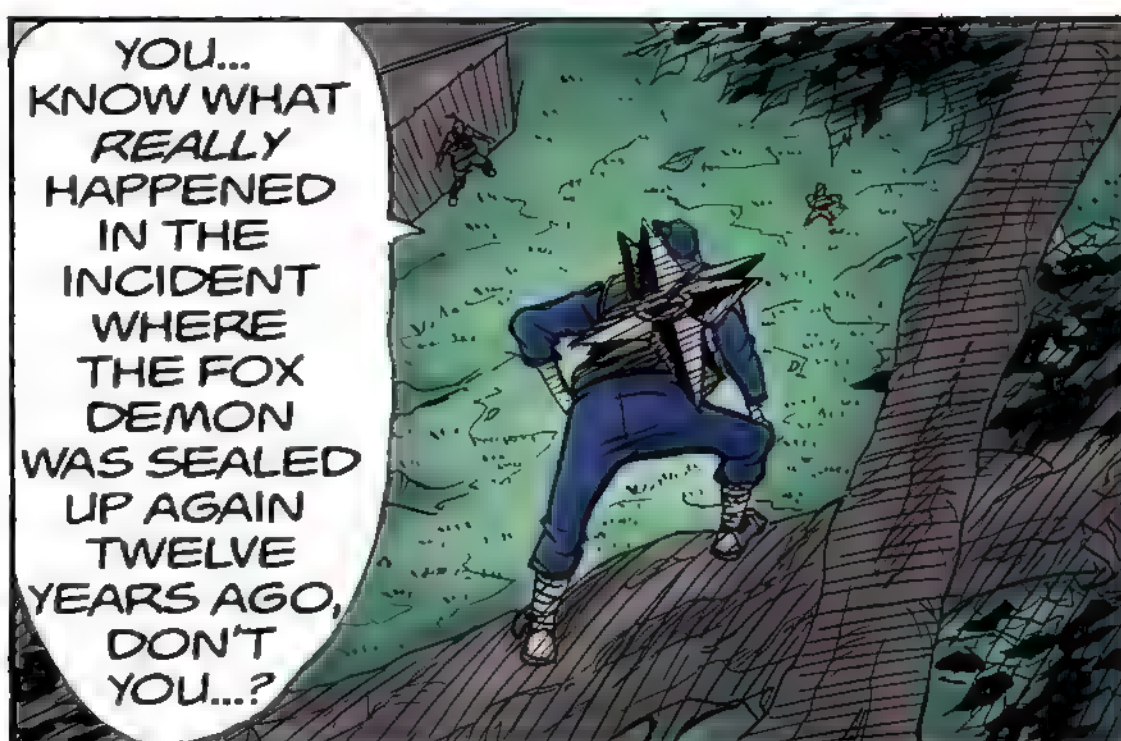
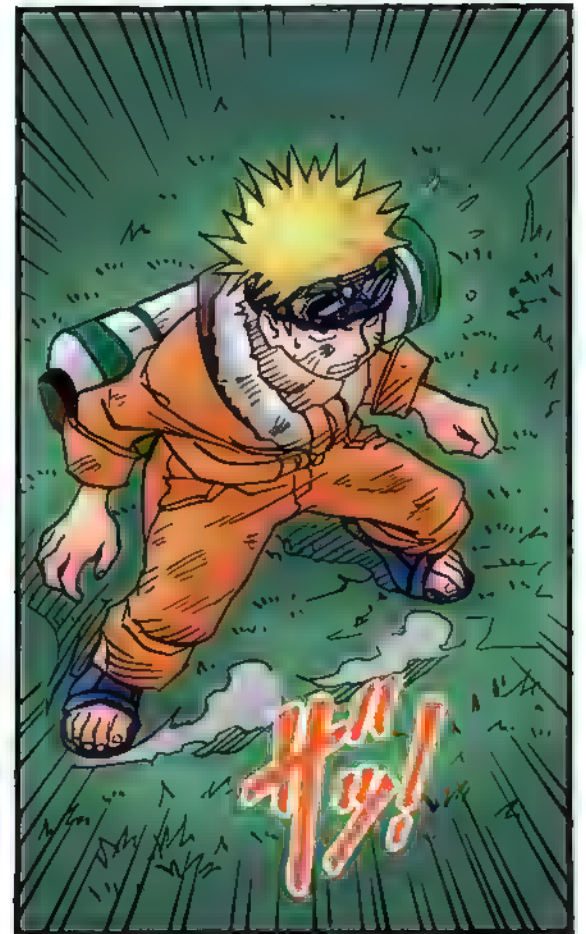
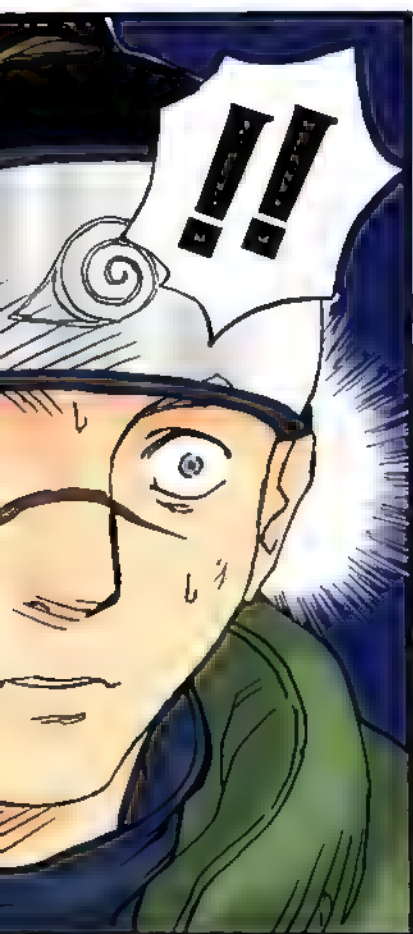


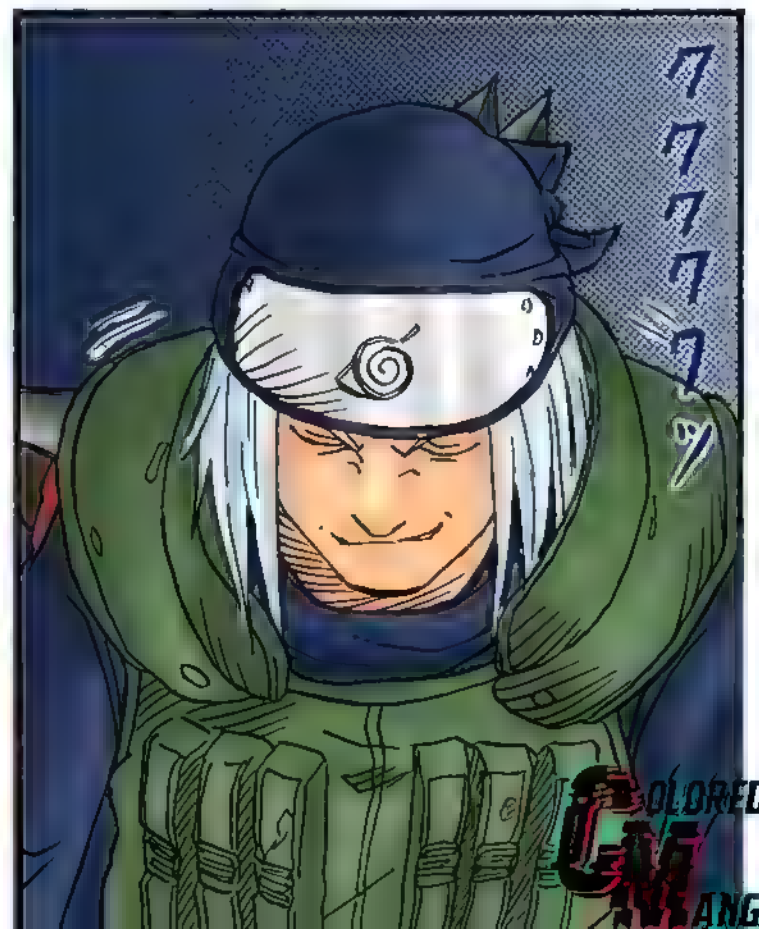
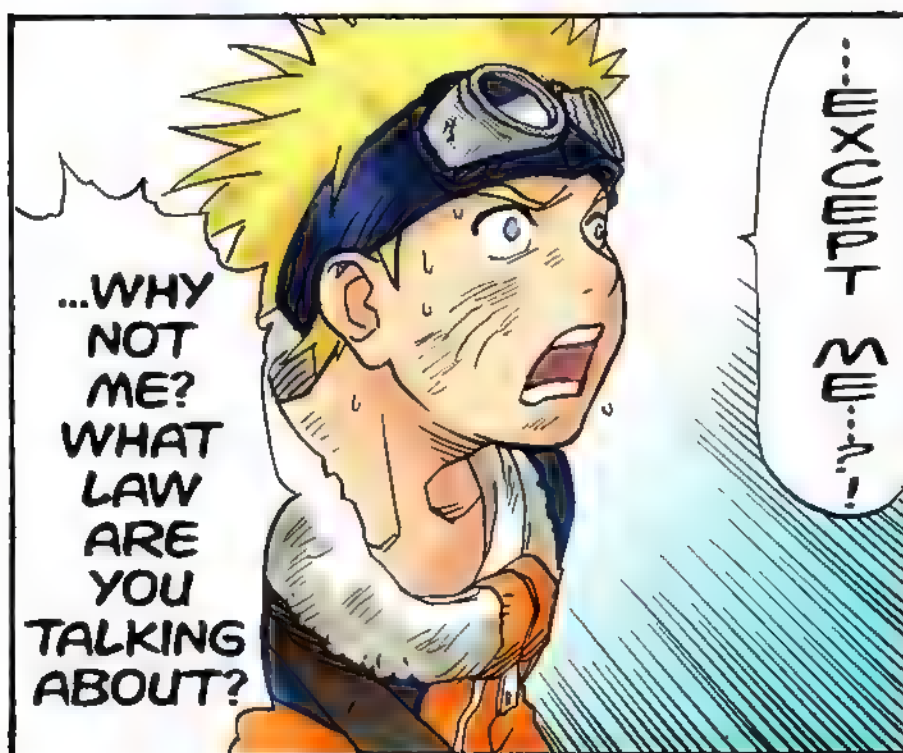
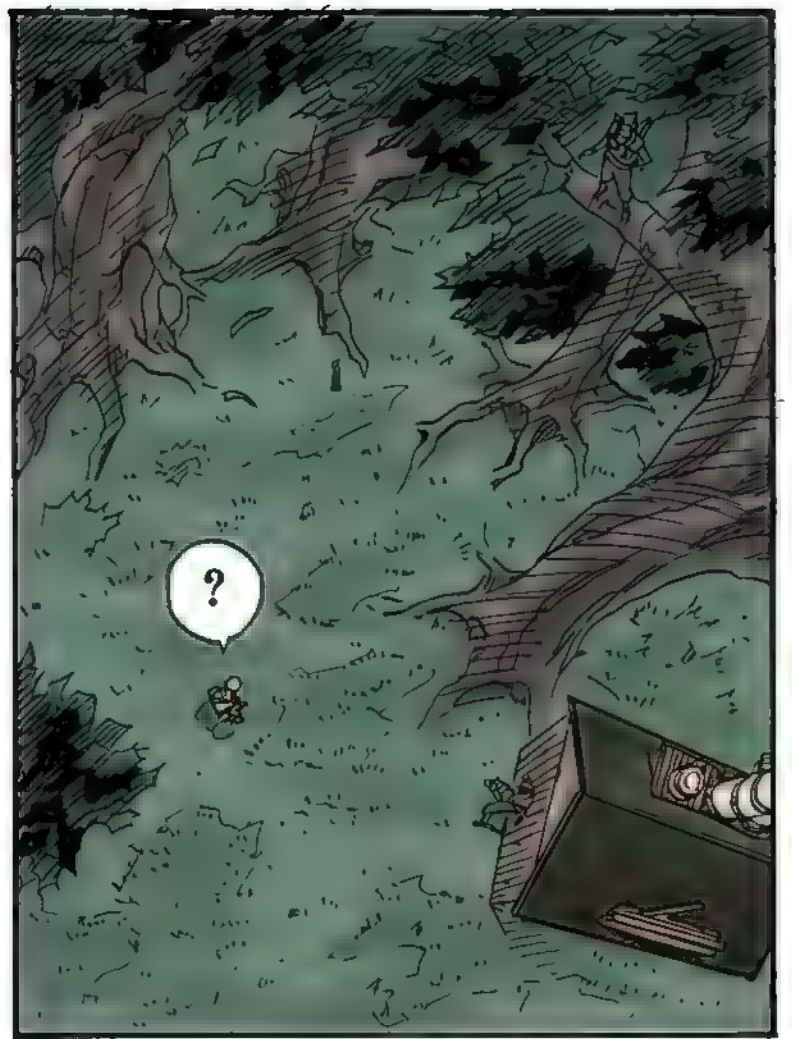
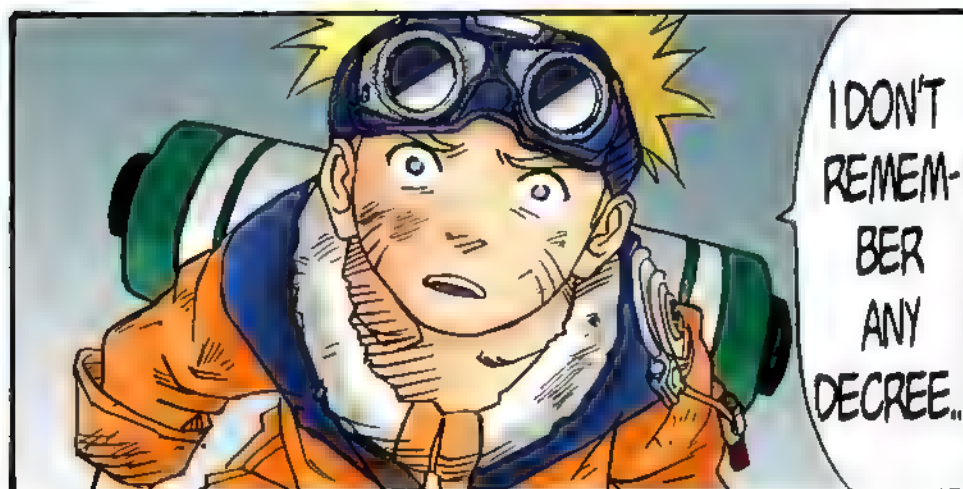
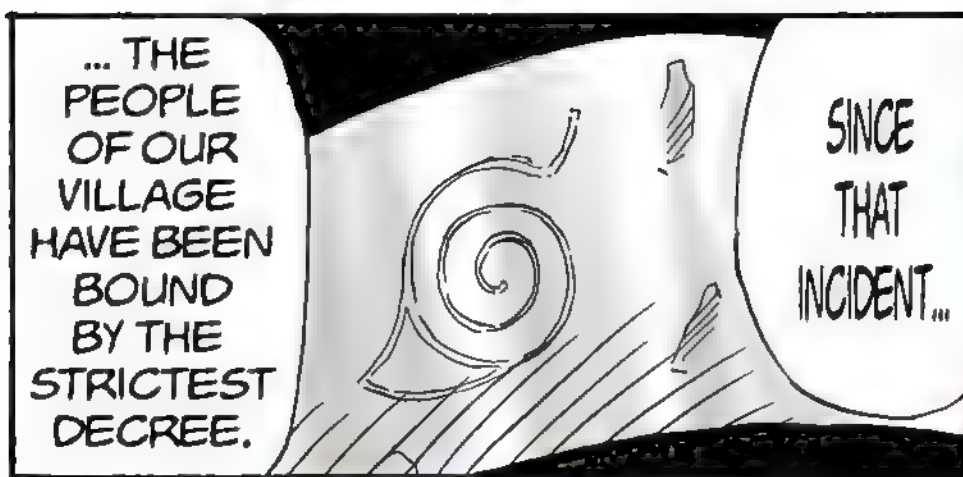


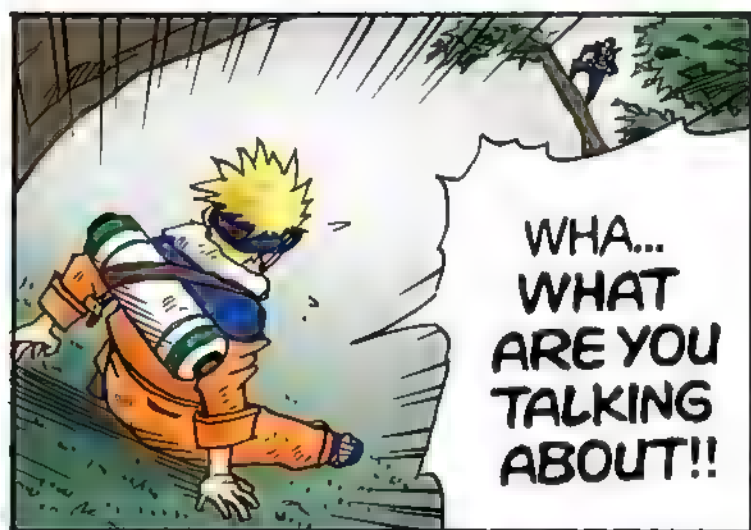
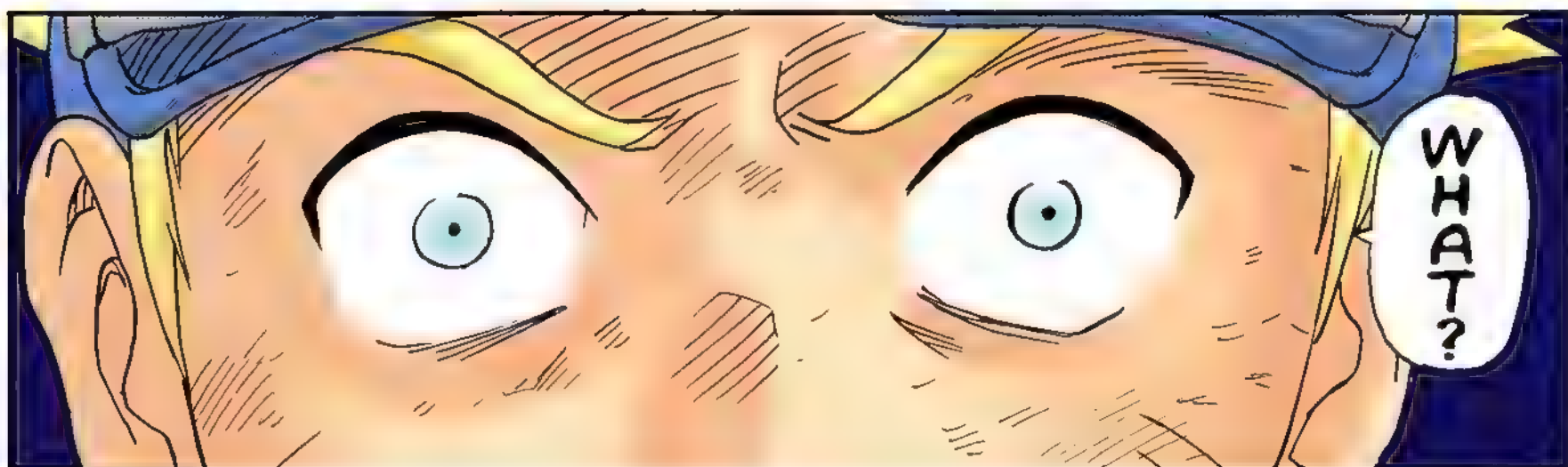








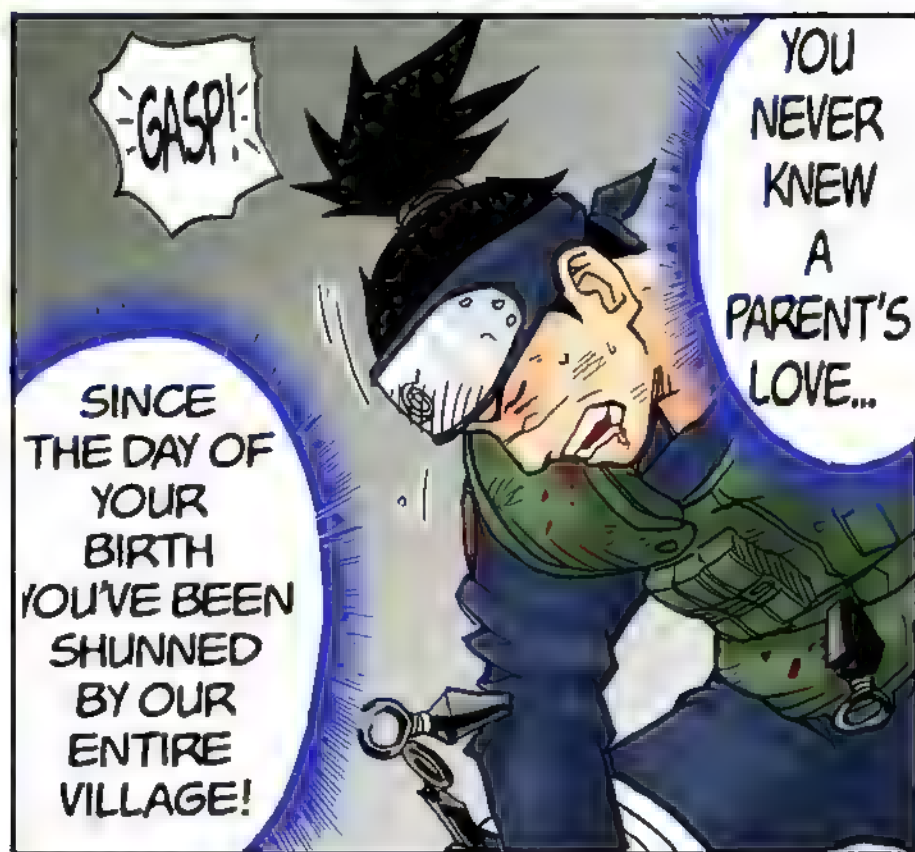








NO ONE
WILL
EVER
ACCEPT
YOU!



GASP!

SINCE
THE DAY OF
YOUR
BIRTH
YOU'VE BEEN
SHUNNED
BY OUR
ENTIRE
VILLAGE!

YOU
NEVER
KNEW
A
PARENT'S
LOVE...



AND YOU
DIDN'T CARE.
YOU WERE
WILLING TO
ACCEPT
ANY CRITICISM,
ANY
CONDEMNATION
SO LONG AS IT
MEANT THAT
SOMEONE
WAS PAYING
ATTENTION
TO YOU.



THE BEST
YOU COULD
EVER HOPE
FOR WAS
ATTENTION,
NOT LOVE...

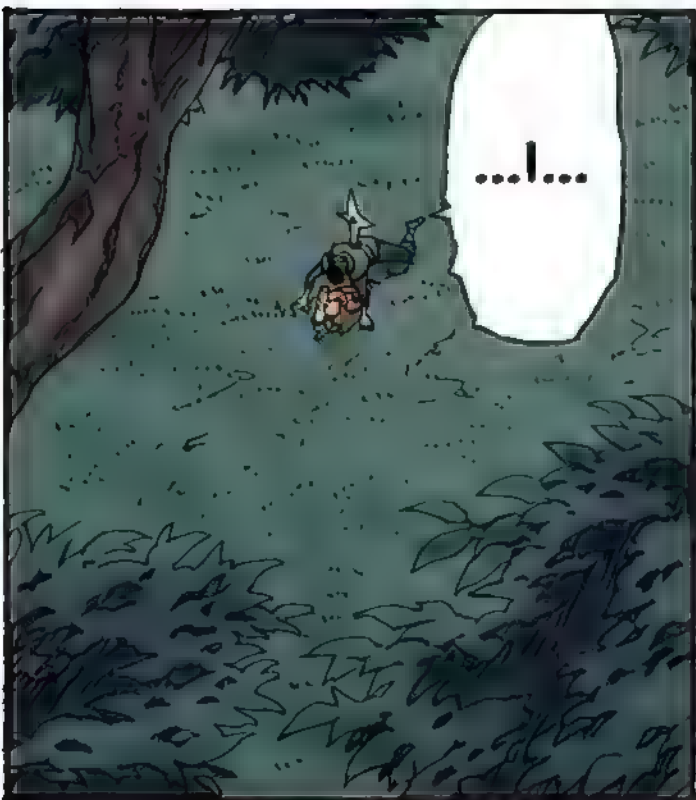
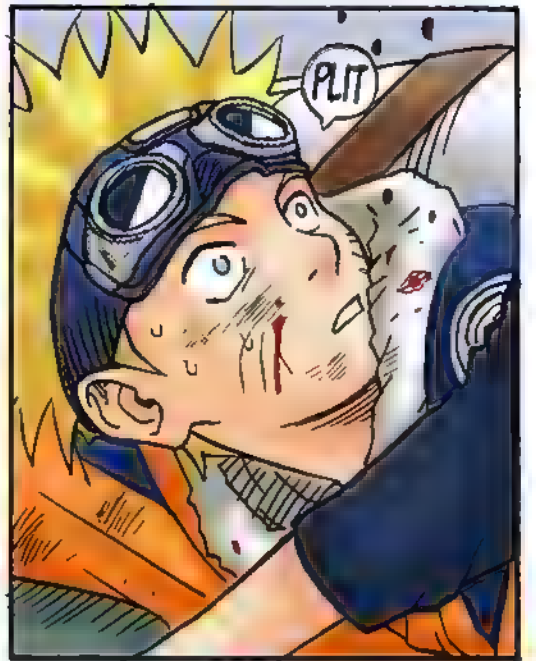
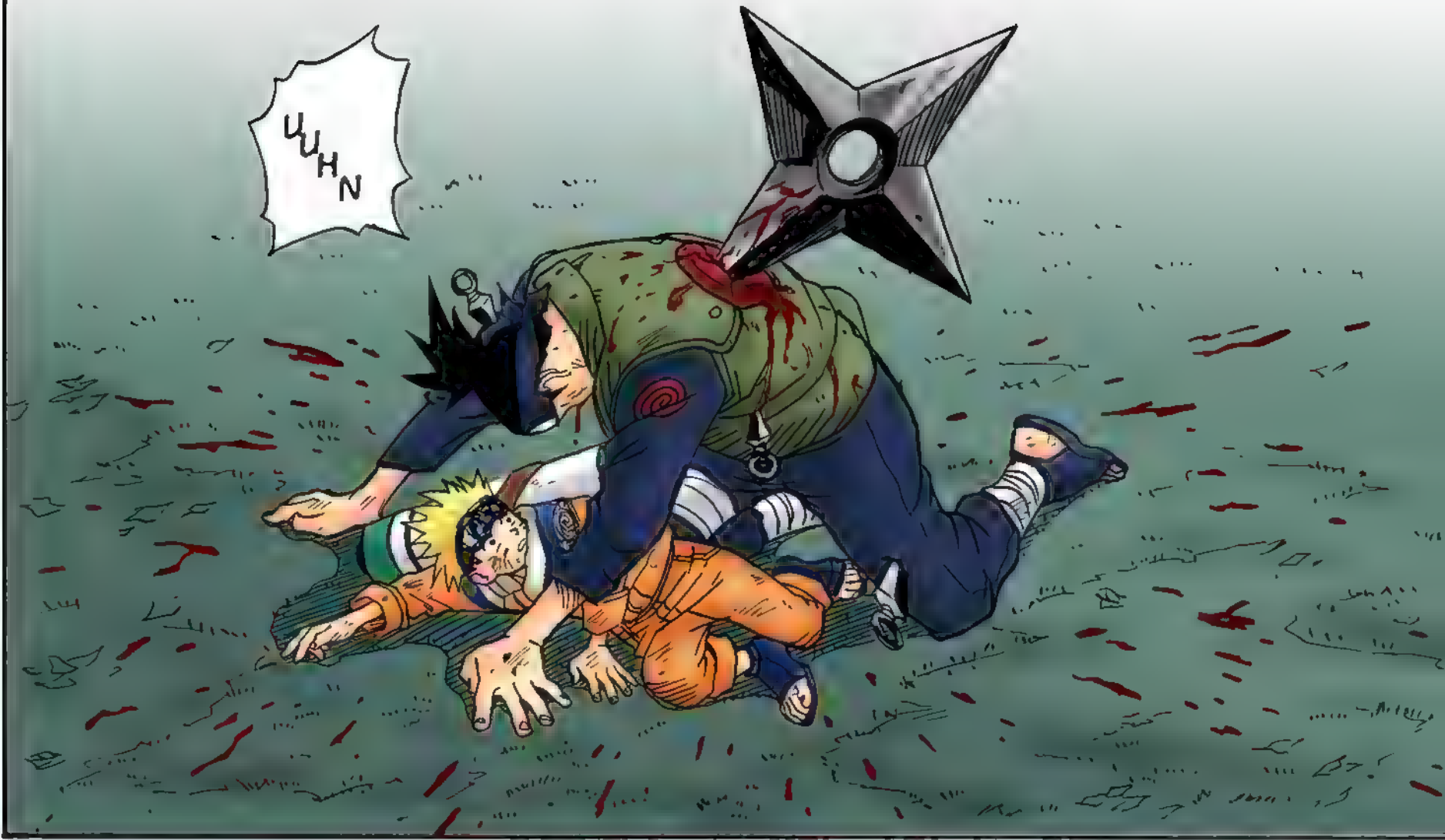
AND YOU
COULD
ONLY GET
THAT BY
DOING
THINGS THAT
WOULD GET
YOU INTO
TROUBLE!

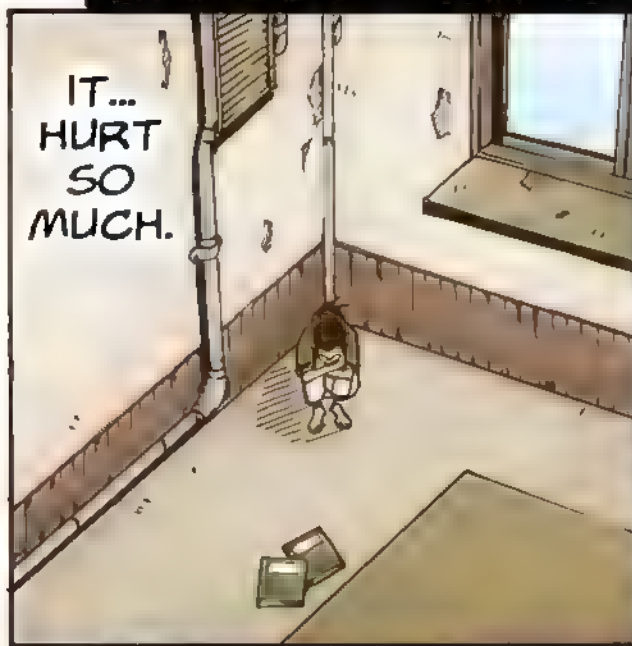
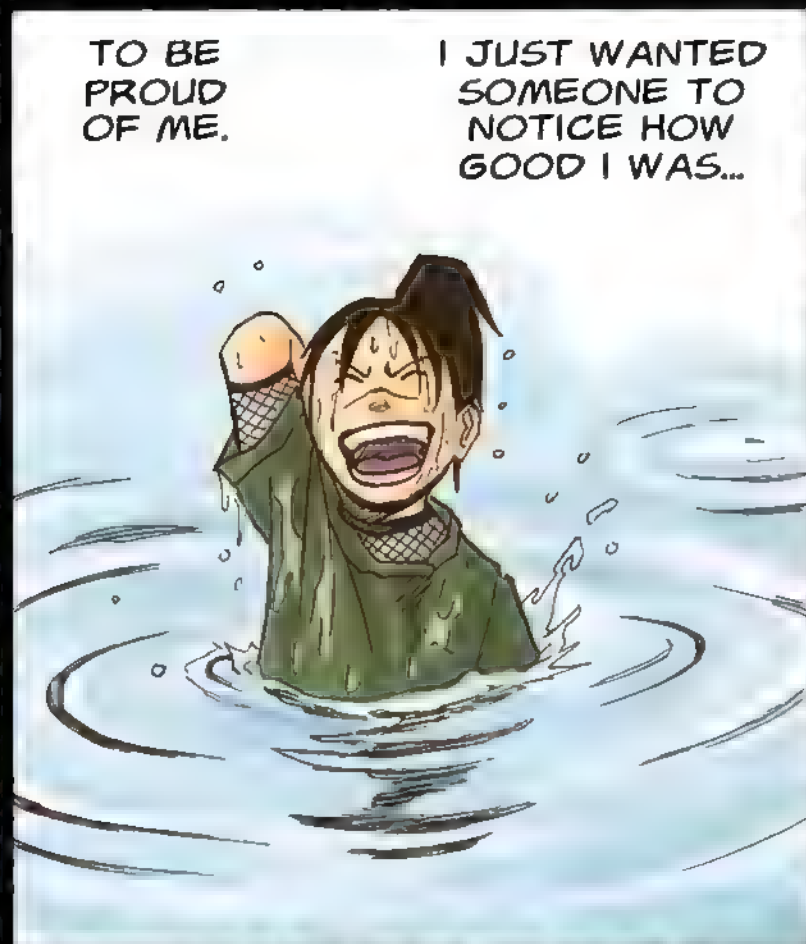
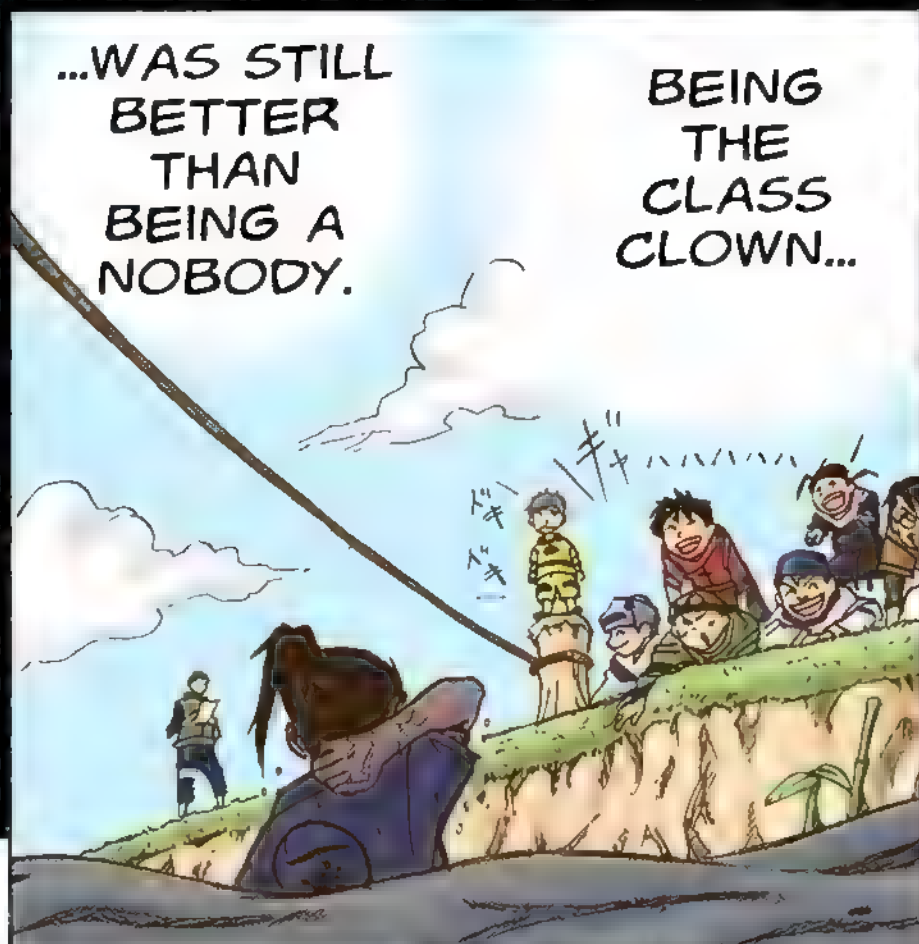


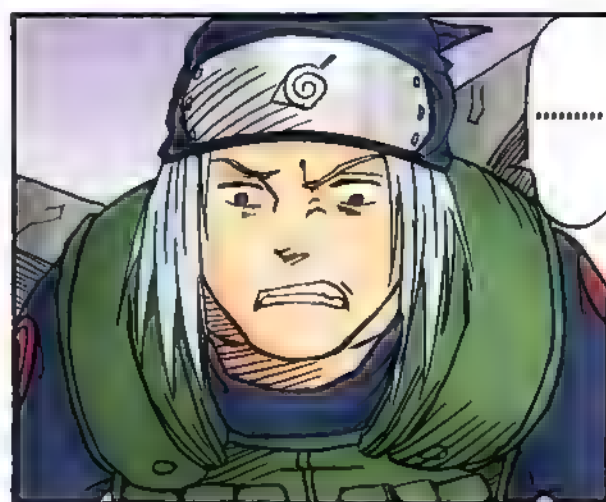
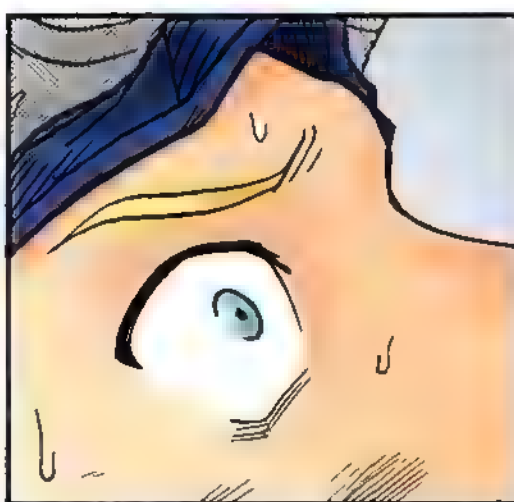
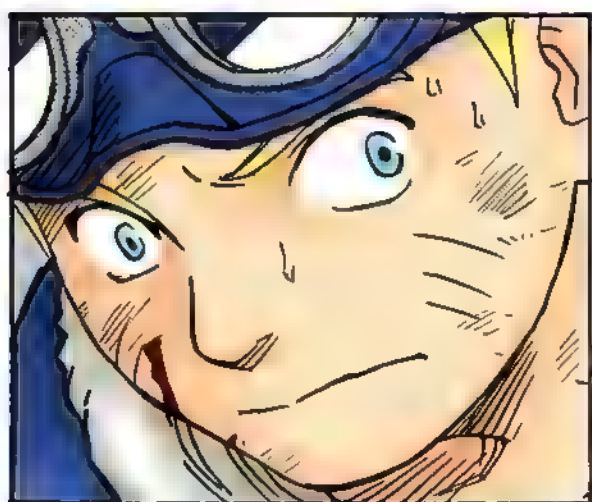
IT WAS A
BRILLIANT
PERFORMANCE,
NARUTO... BUT IT
WAS ALL A SHAM,
TO HIDE YOUR
LONELINESS...
AND PAIN!

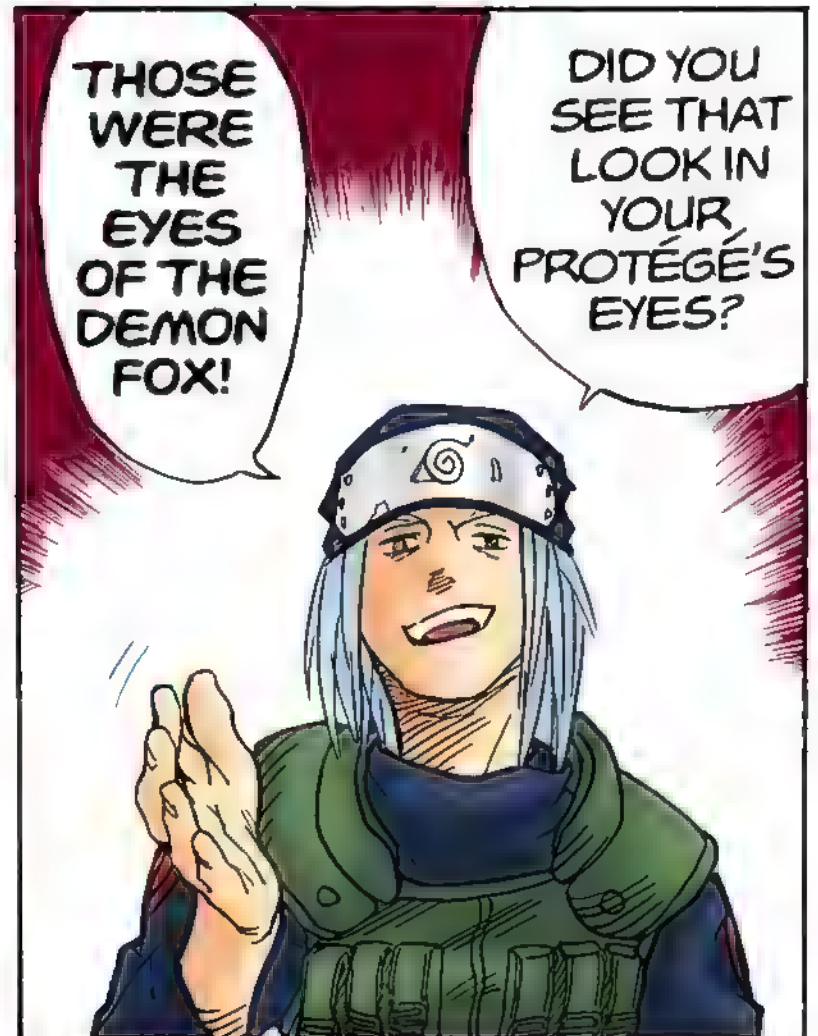
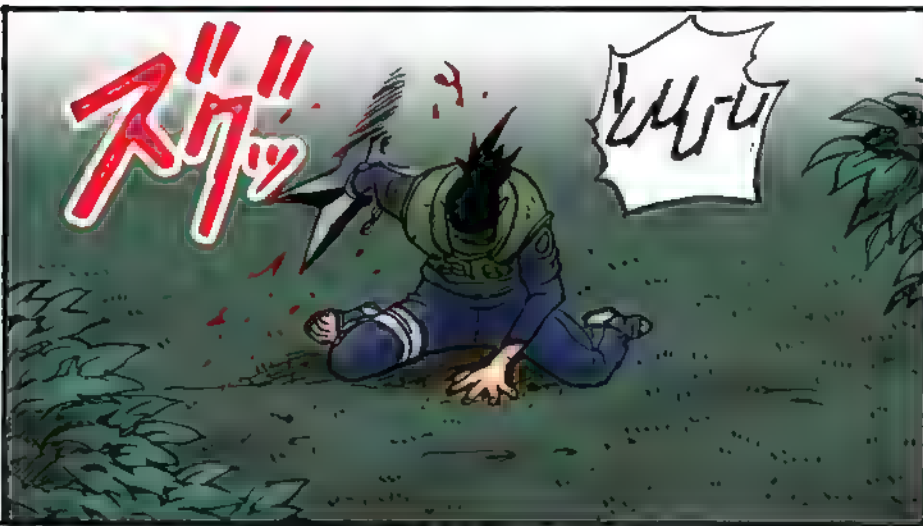
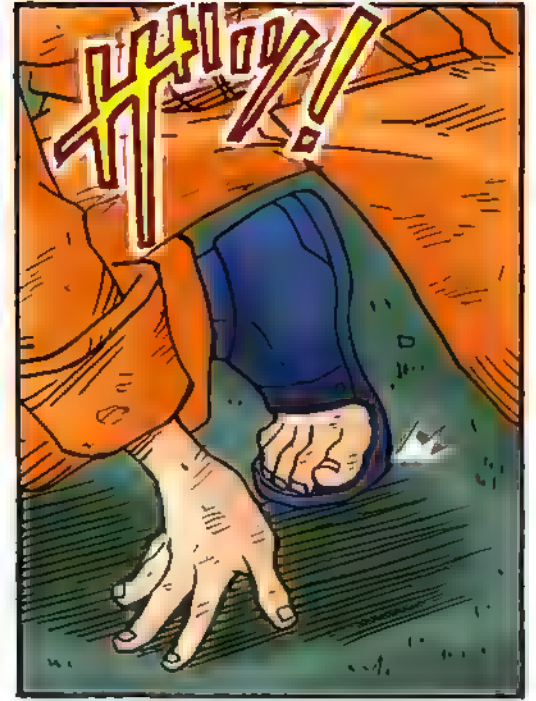
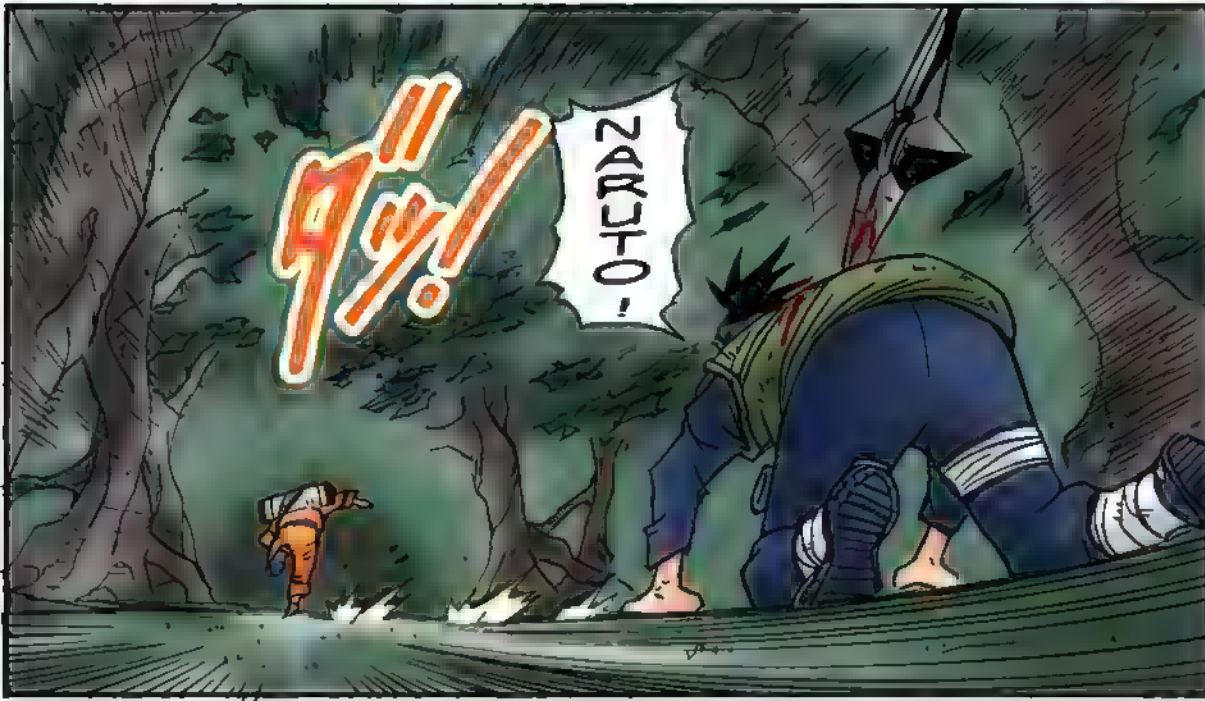


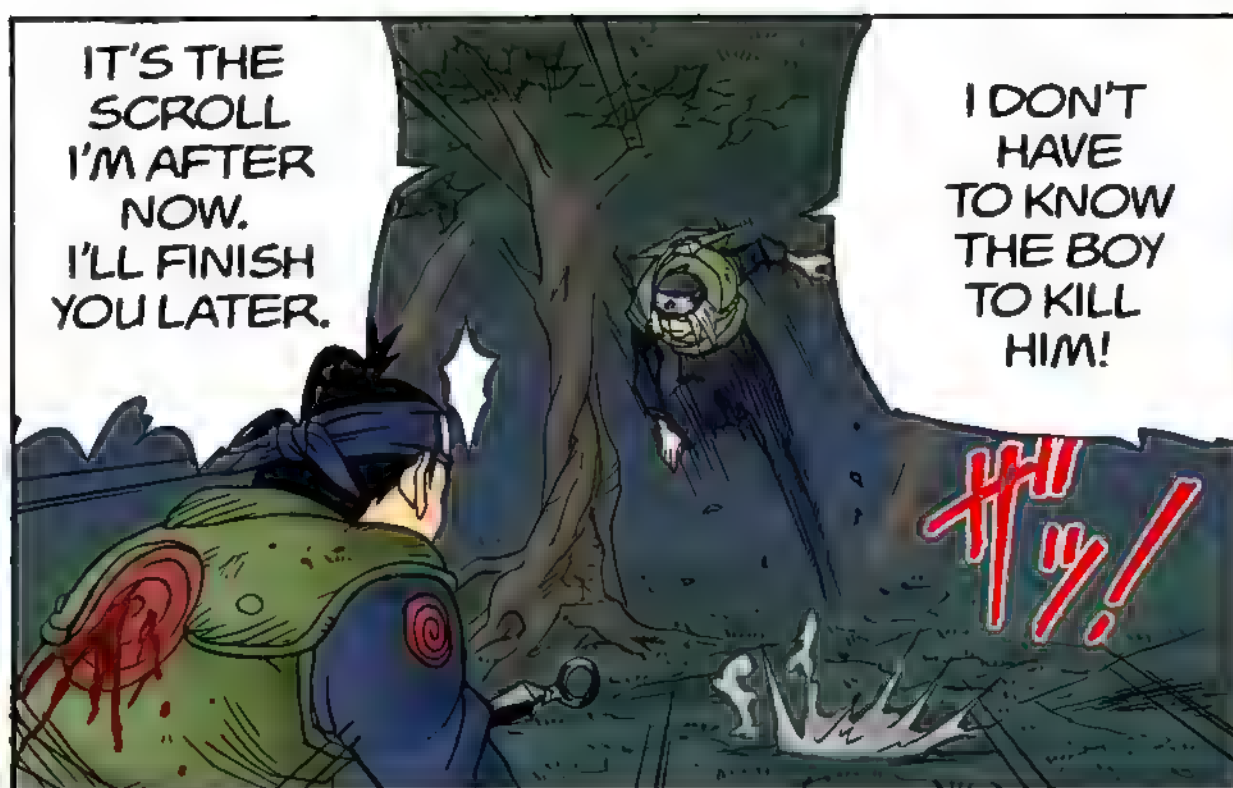
THAT SCROLL
THAT YOU'VE
STOLEN...
IT WAS THE
INSTRUMENT
OF YOUR
BONDAGE!!





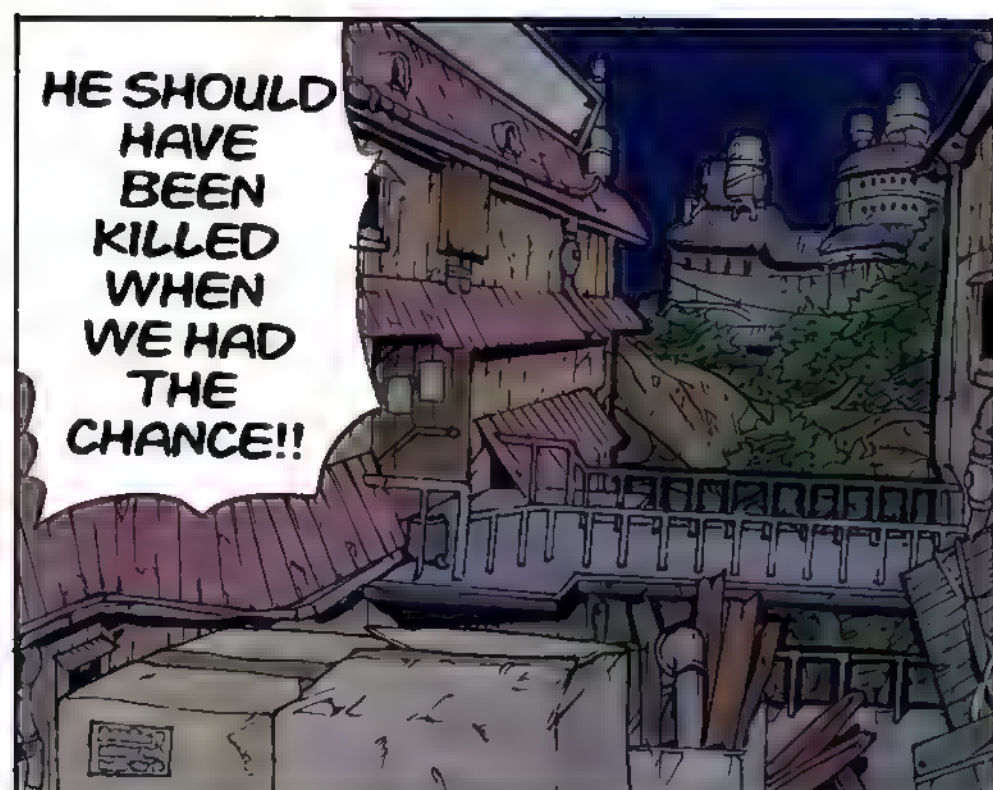
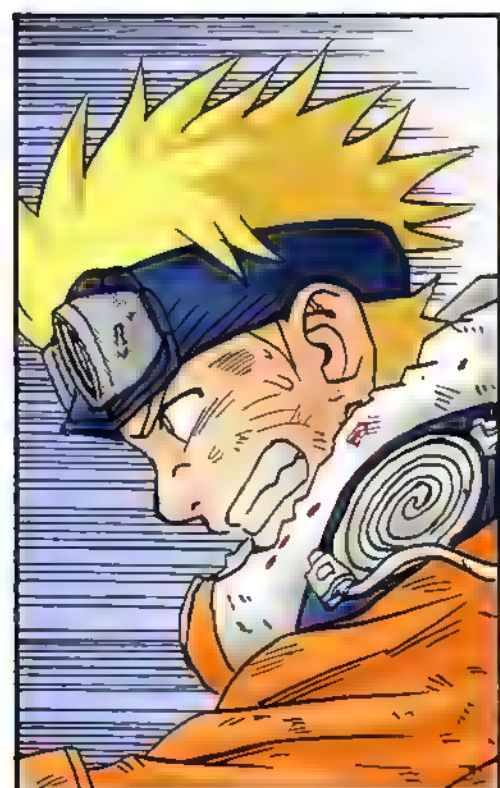






IT'S THE
SCROLL
I'M AFTER
NOW.
I'LL FINISH
YOU LATER.

I DON'T
HAVE
TO KNOW
THE BOY
TO KILL
HIM!



HE SHOULD
HAVE
BEEN
KILLED
WHEN
WE HAD
THE
CHANCE!!



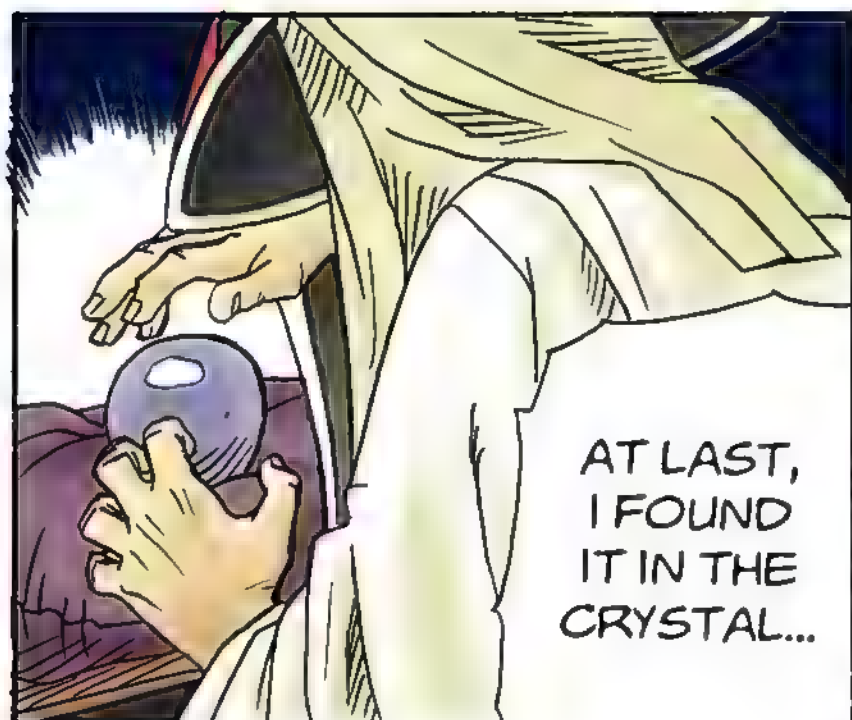
YOU
CAN
TRY.



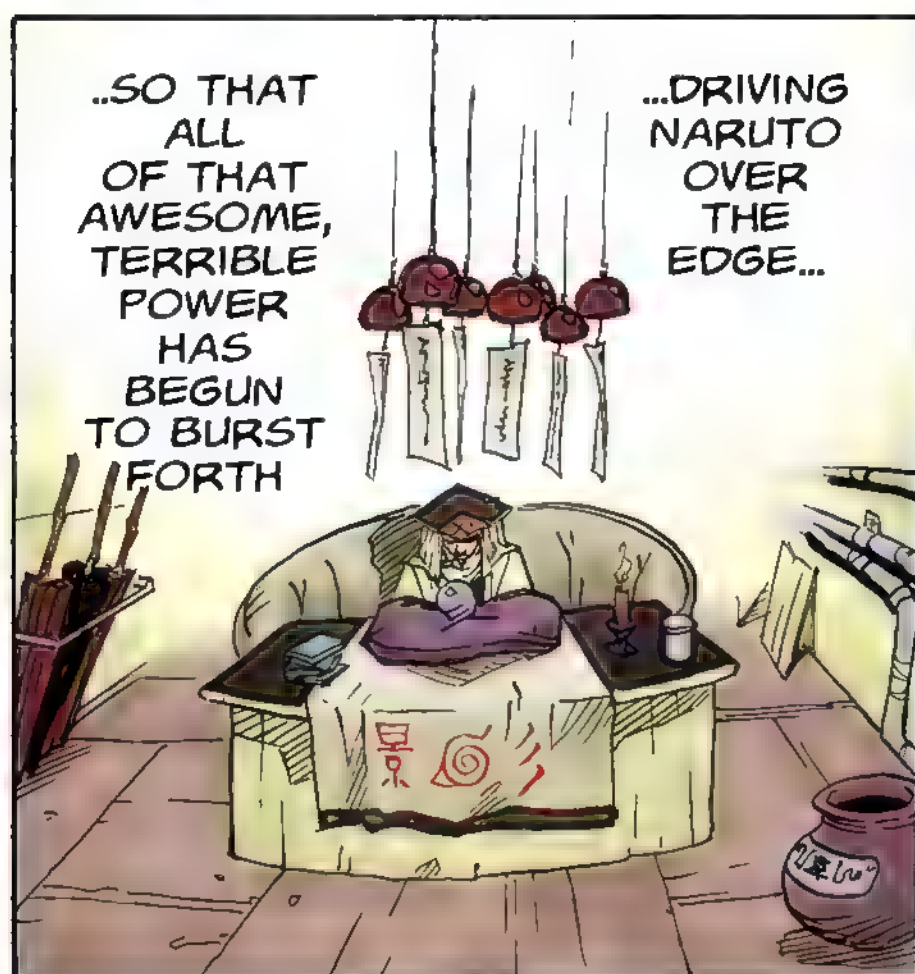
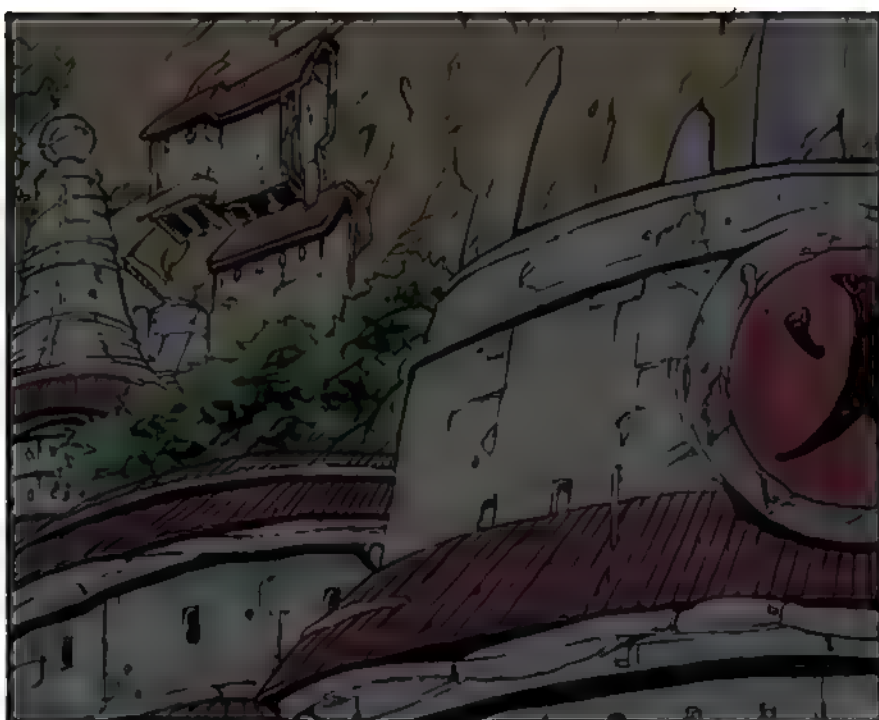
DON'T
MAKE
THE
MISTAKE
OF
THINKING
OF
HIM AS
ONE
OF US.
WHEN
WE FIND
HIM,
HE
HAS
TO DIE!!



BUT WE CAN
STILL SET THAT
RIGHT IF WE ACT
NOW, WHILE
HE'S STILL A BOY...
BEFORE THE
DEMON SPIRIT
BREAKS FREE!!

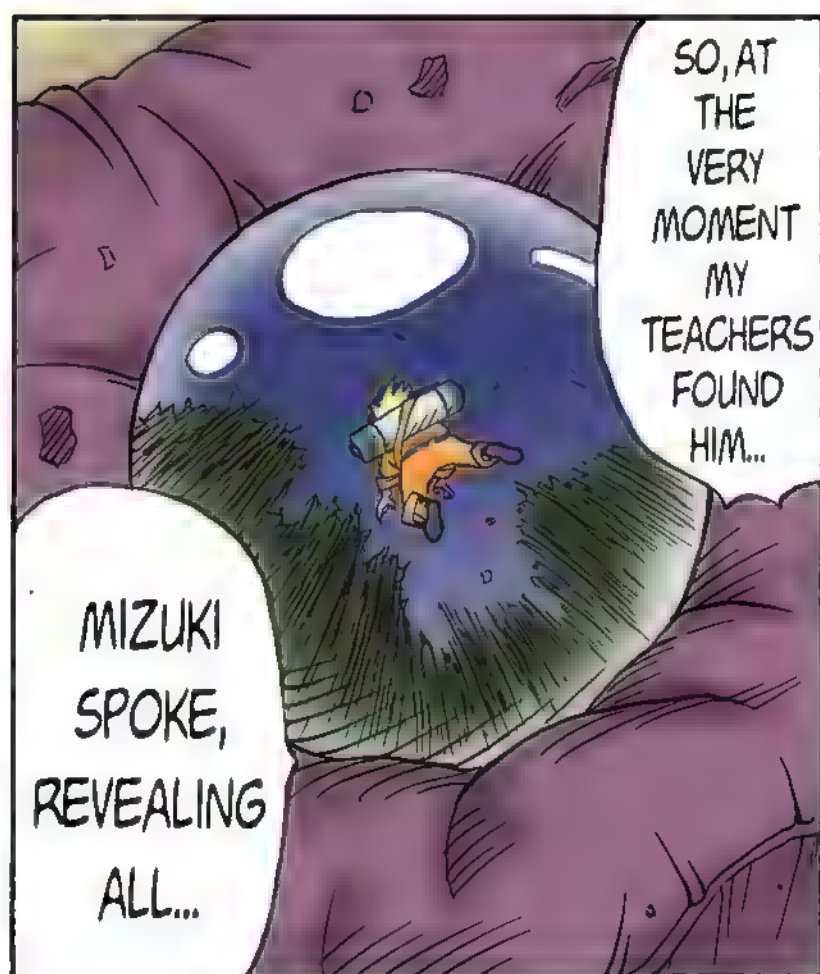


AT LAST,
I FOUND
IT IN THE
CRYSTAL...



..SO THAT
ALL
OF THAT
AWESOME,
TERRIBLE
POWER
HAS
BEGUN
TO BURST
FORTH

...DRIVING
NARUTO
OVER
THE
EDGE...



SO, AT
THE
VERY
MOMENT
MY
TEACHERS
FOUND
HIM...

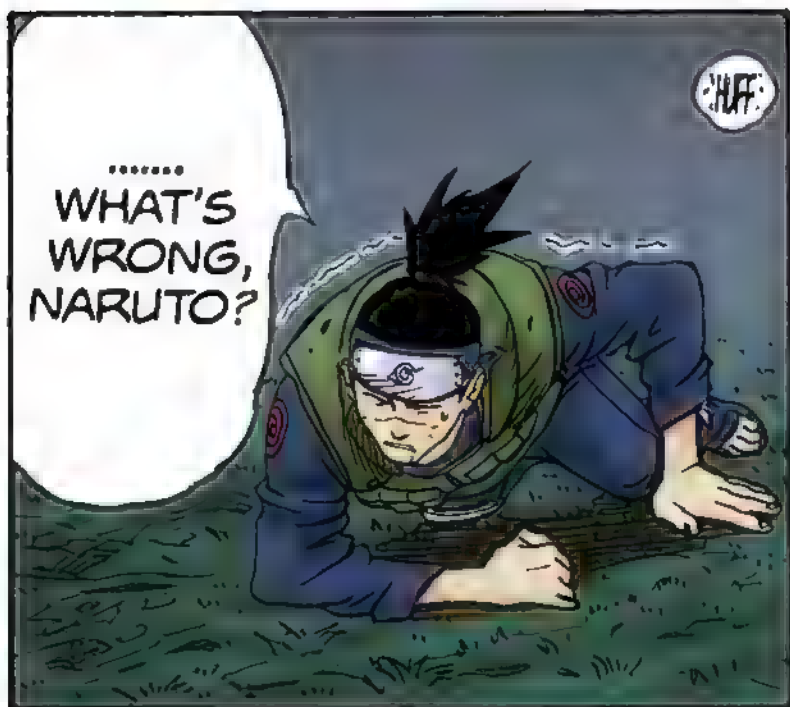
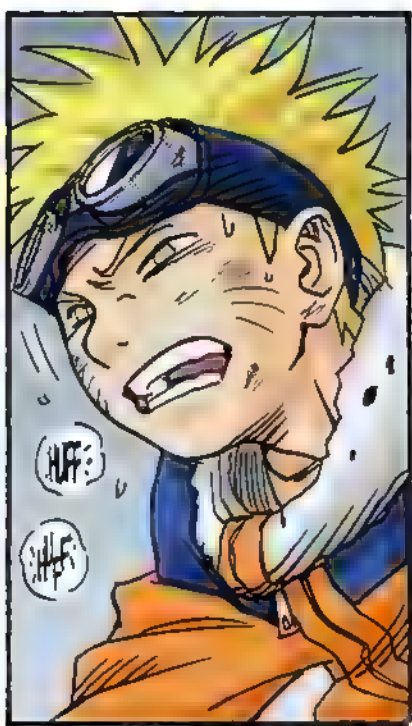
MIZUKI
SPOKE,
REVEALING
ALL...

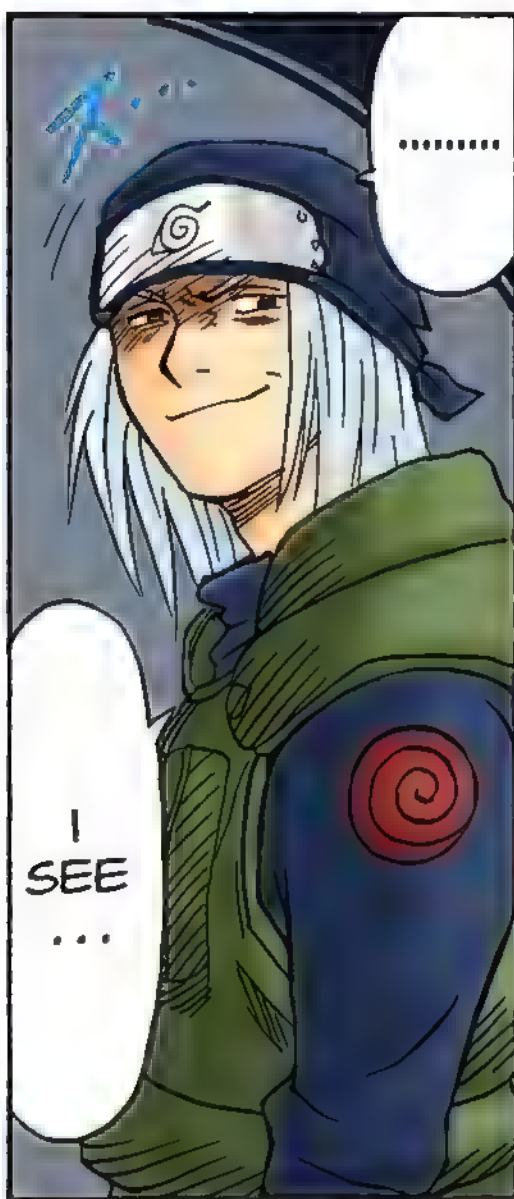
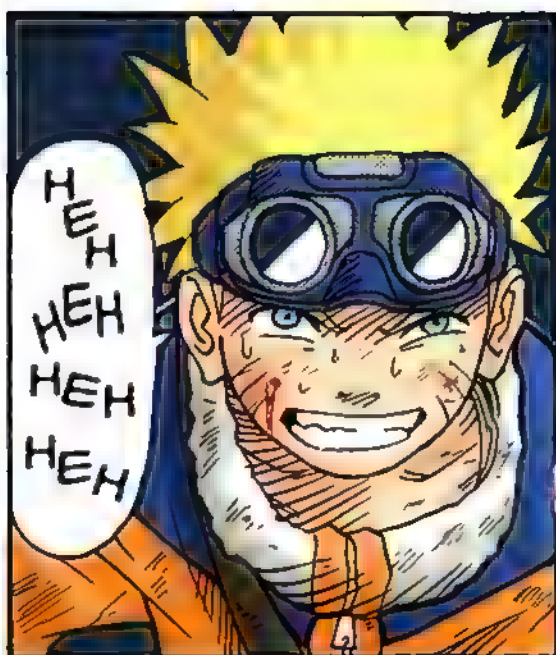


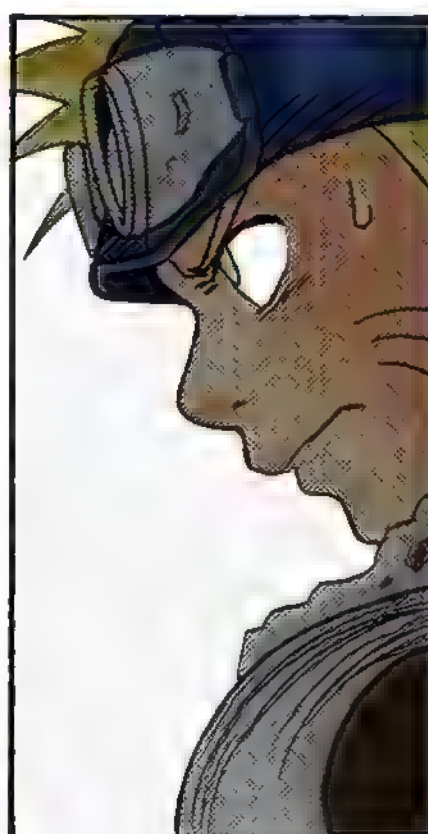
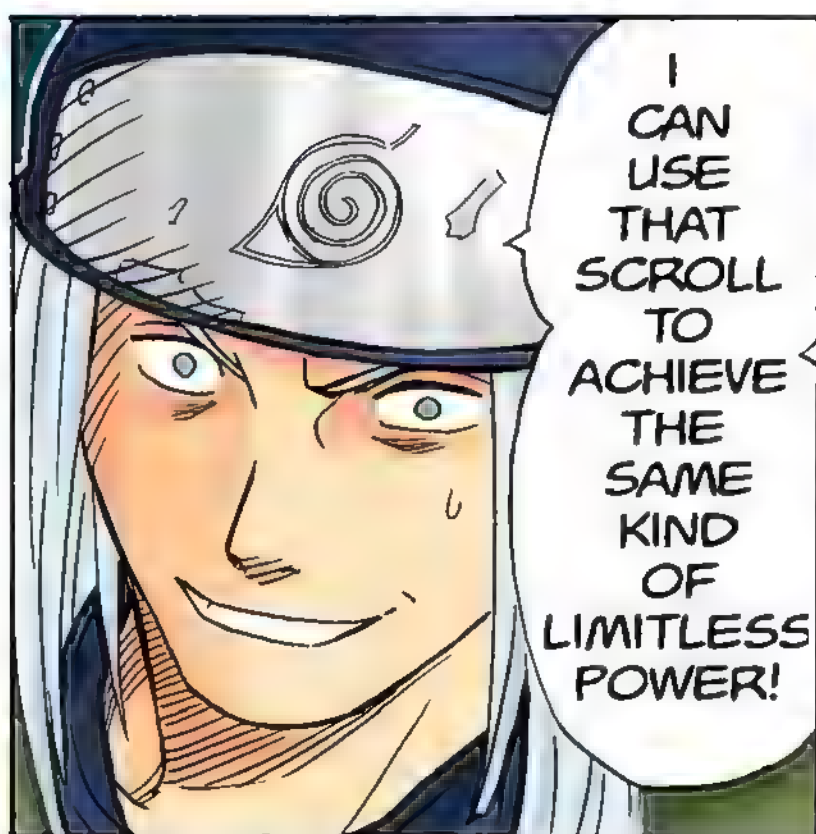
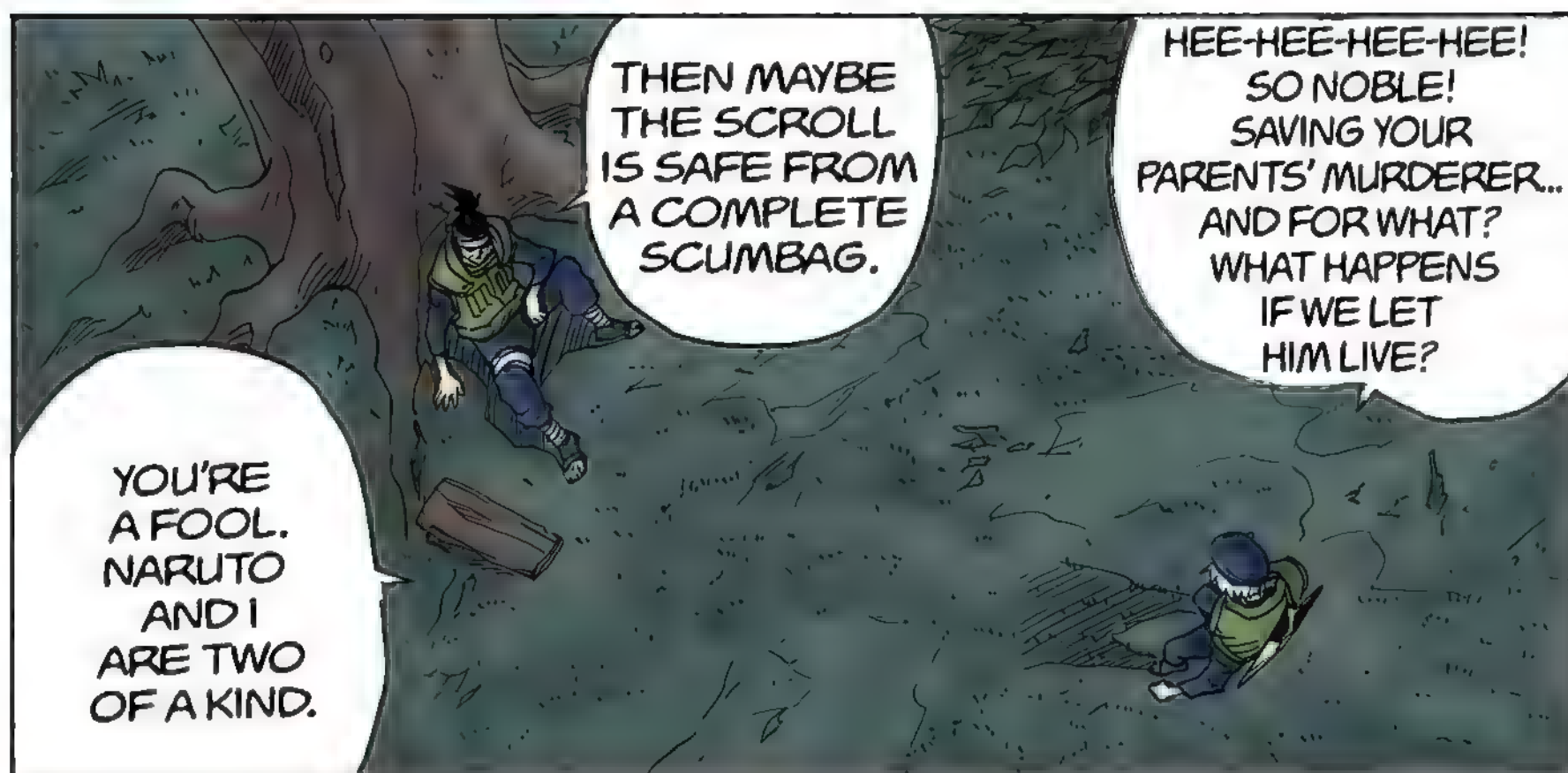
AND TO TOP
THAT, IF THE
SECRET SCROLL
IS IN HIS HANDS...

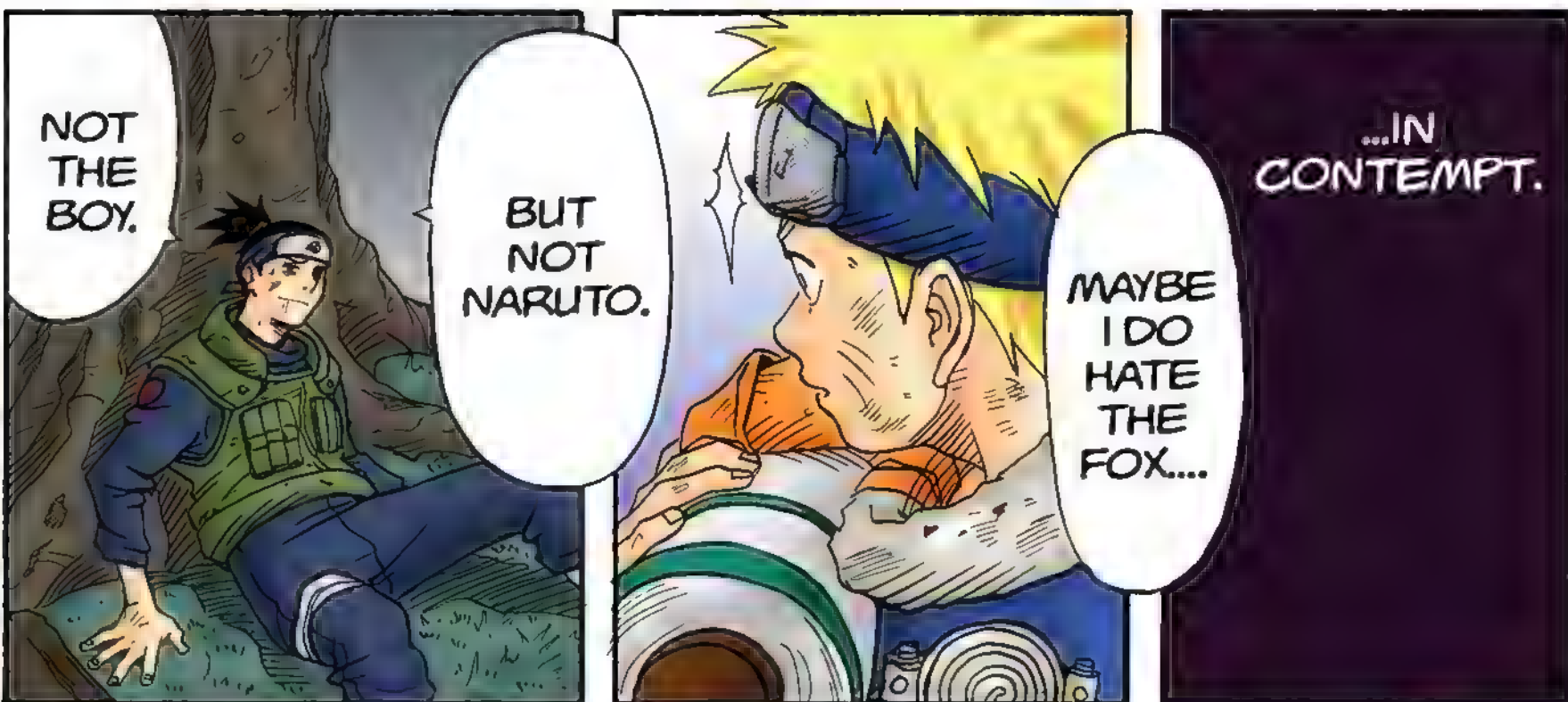
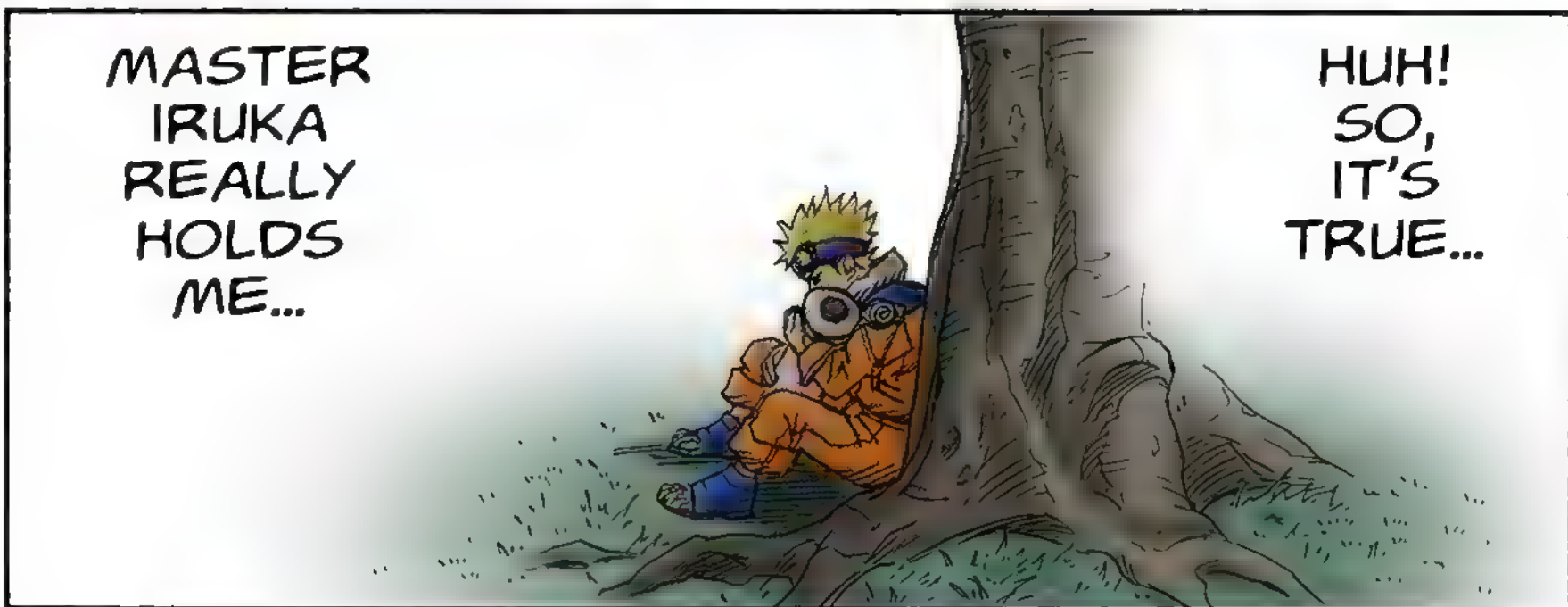
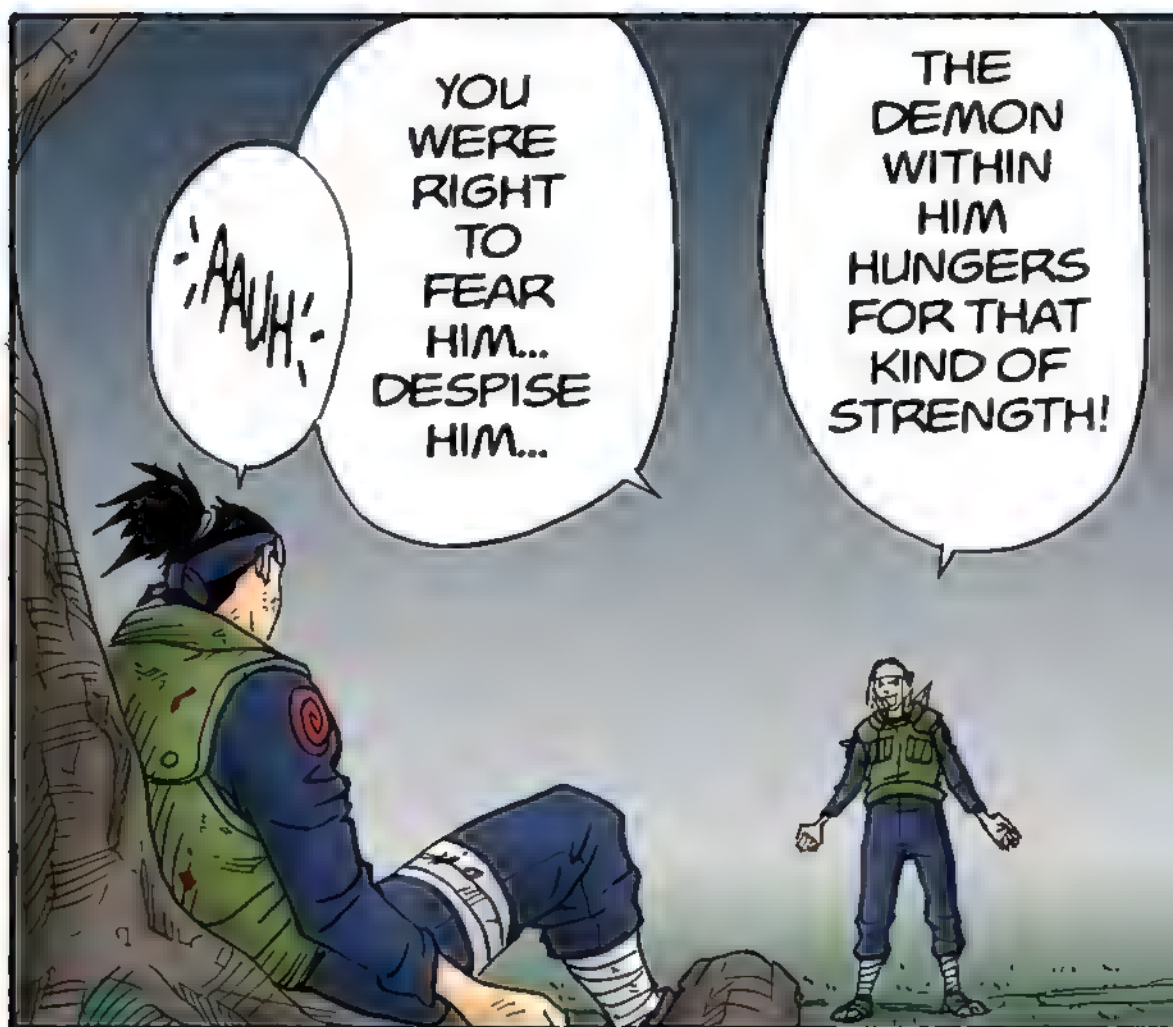
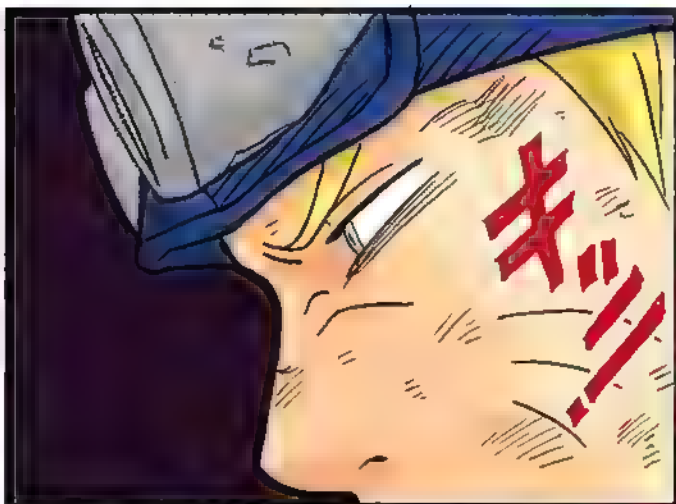
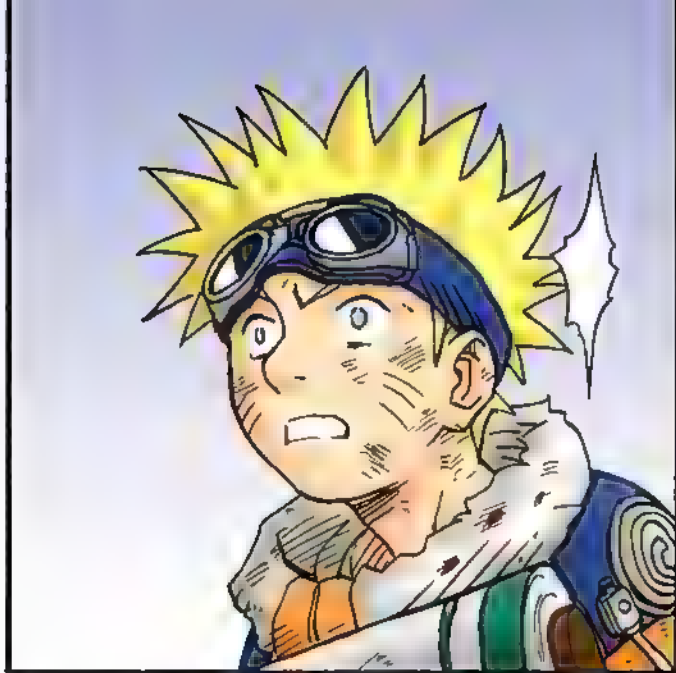
THERE IS ALWAYS
THE POSSIBILITY
THAT THE SPIRIT
MIGHT ESCAPE...







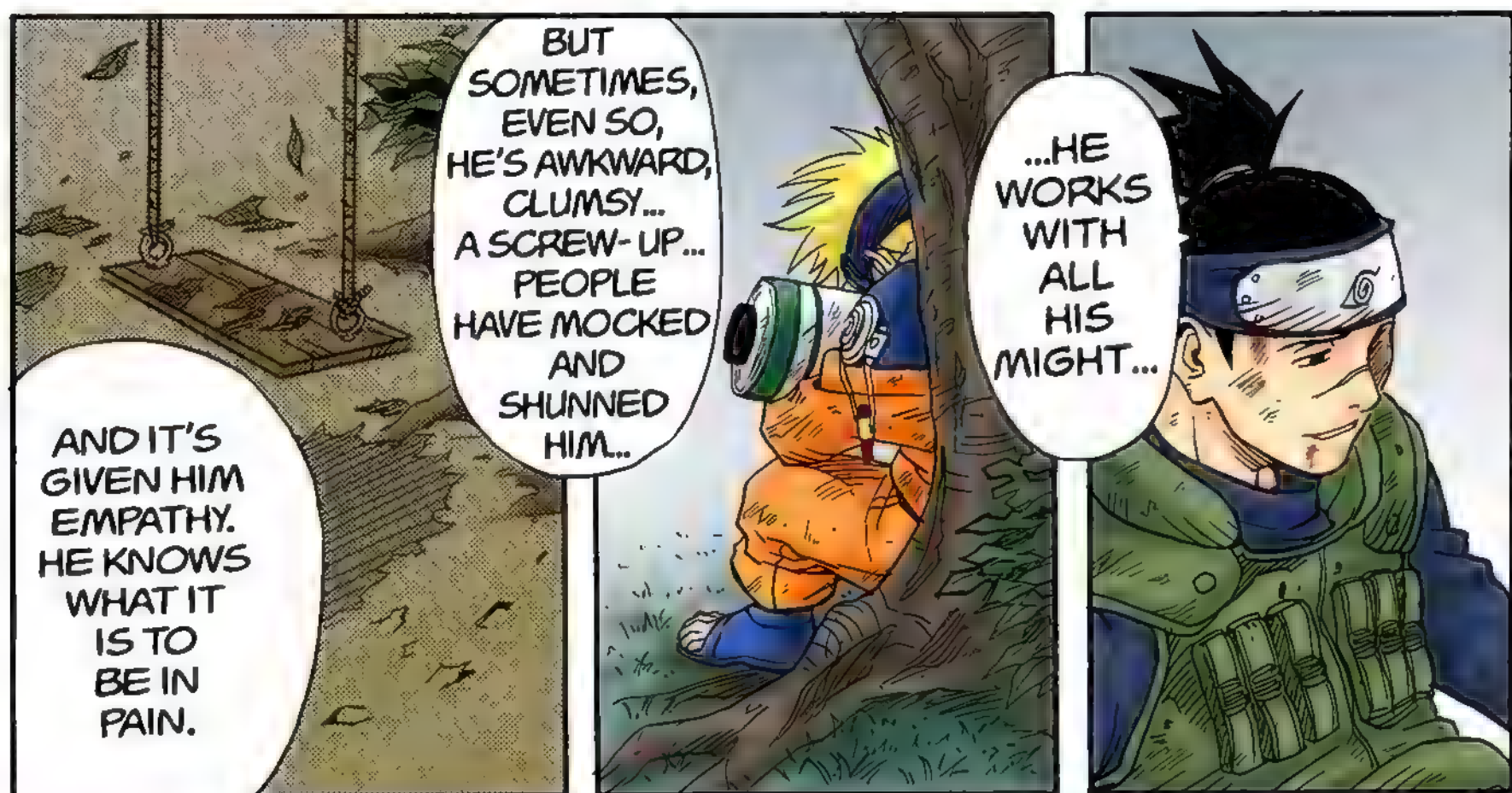






HE'S
AN
EXCELLENT
STUDENT.

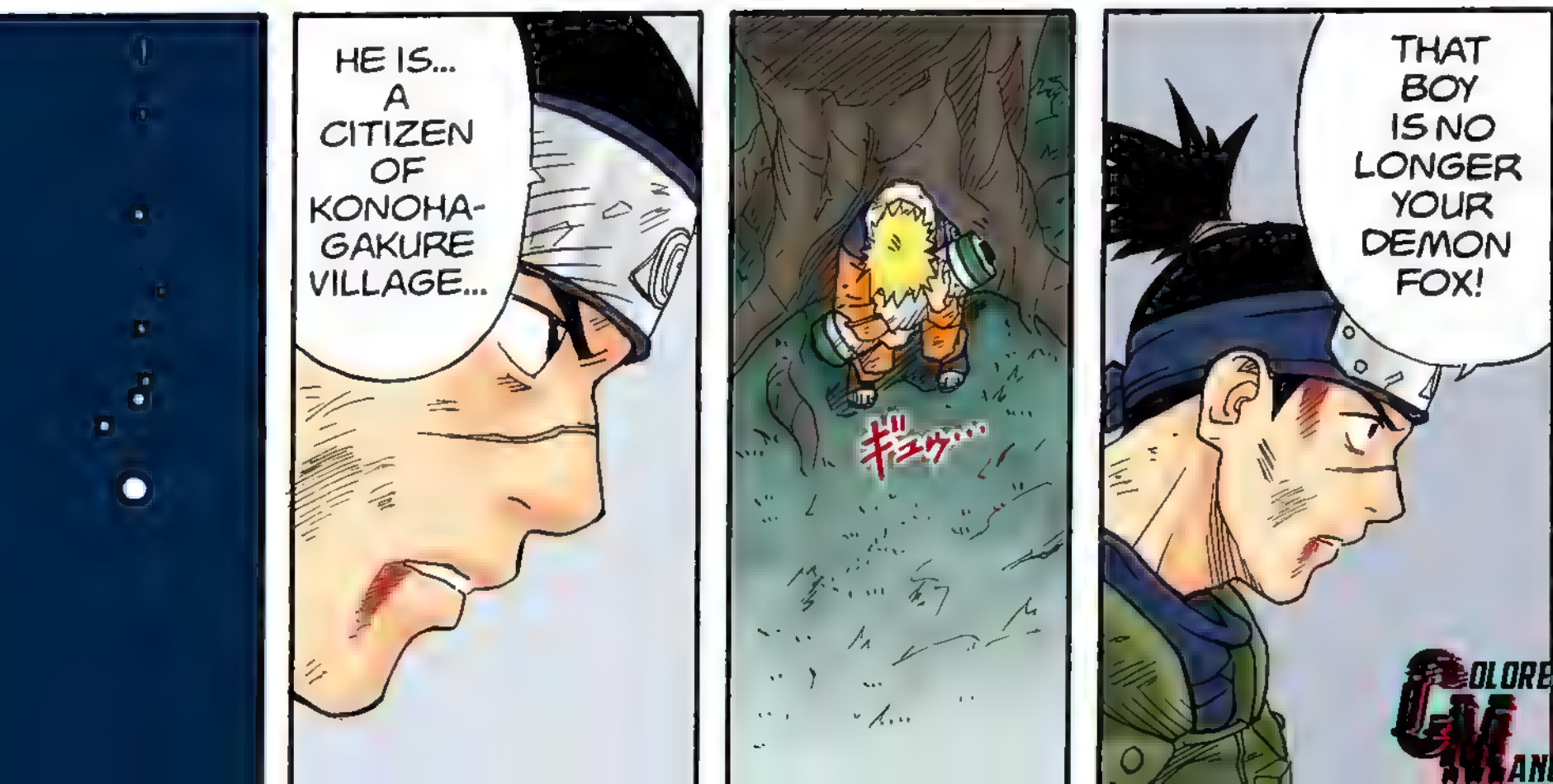
FOR
HIM,
I
HAVE
NOTHING
BUT
RESPECT.



AND IT'S
GIVEN HIM
EMPATHY.
HE KNOWS
WHAT IT
IS TO
BE IN
PAIN.

BUT
SOMETIMES,
EVEN SO,
HE'S AWKWARD,
CLUMSY...
A SCREW-UP...
PEOPLE
HAVE MOCKED
AND
SHUNNED HIM...

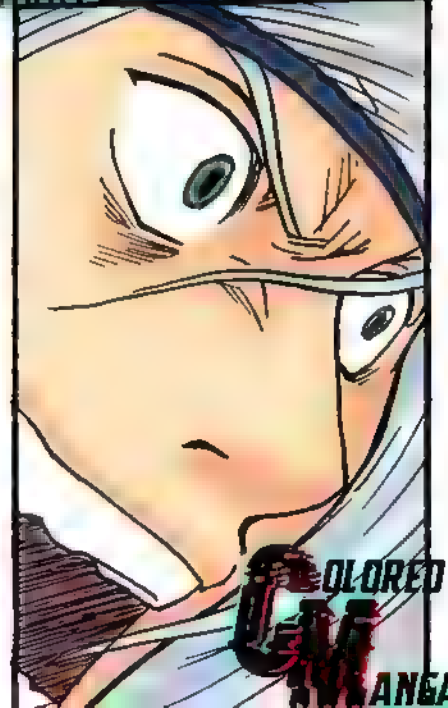
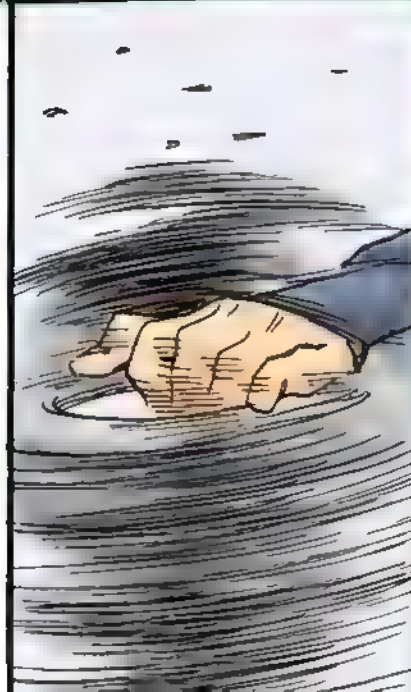
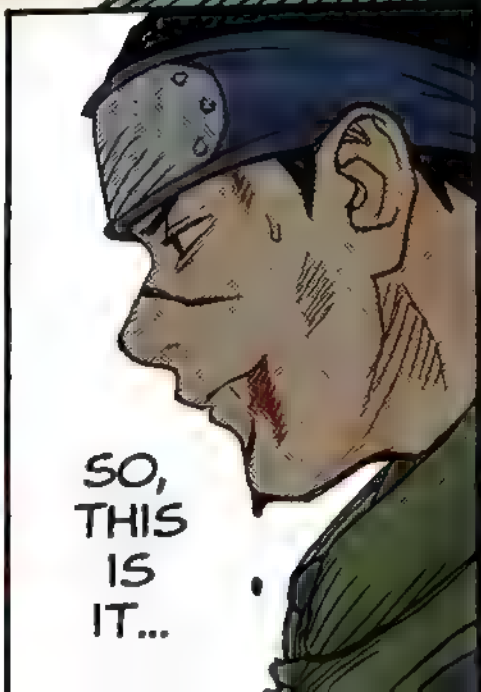
...HE
WORKS
WITH
ALL
HIS
MIGHT...

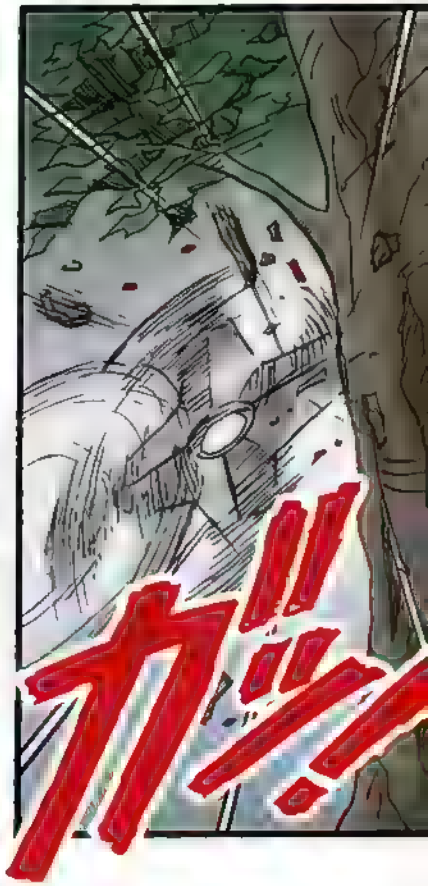
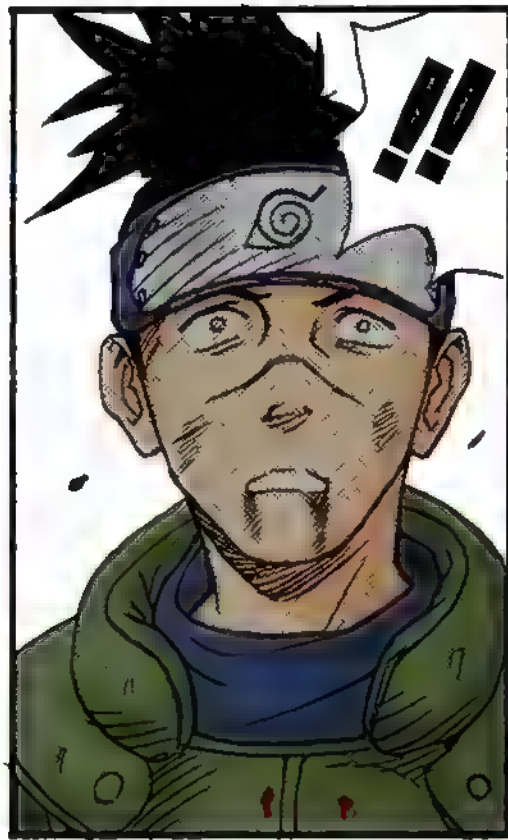
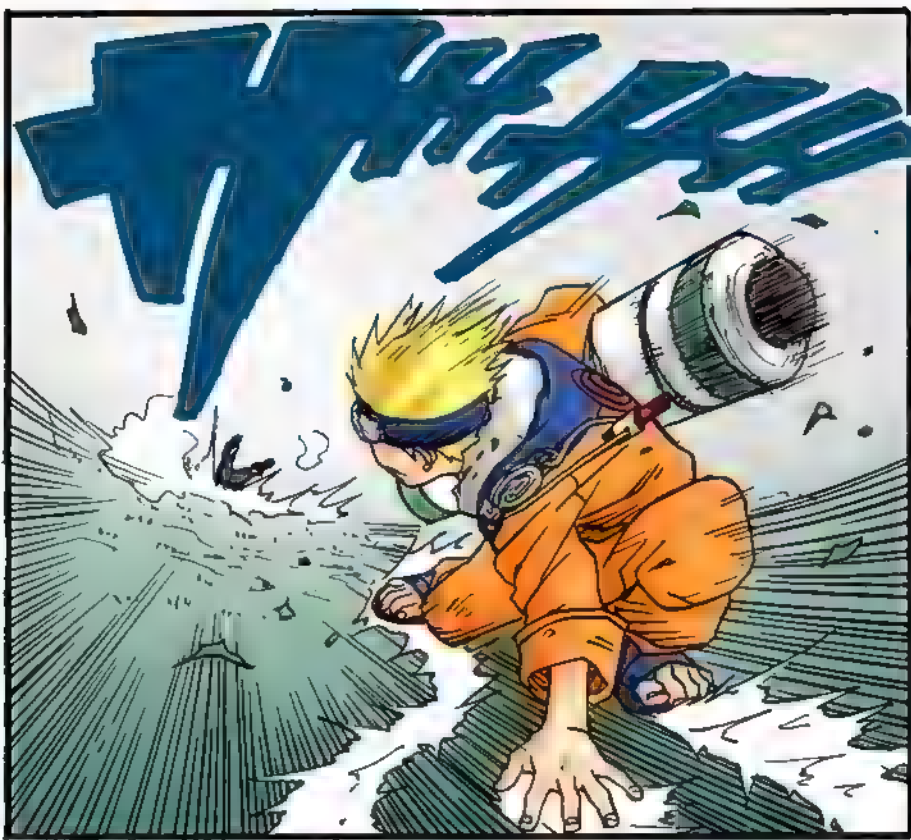
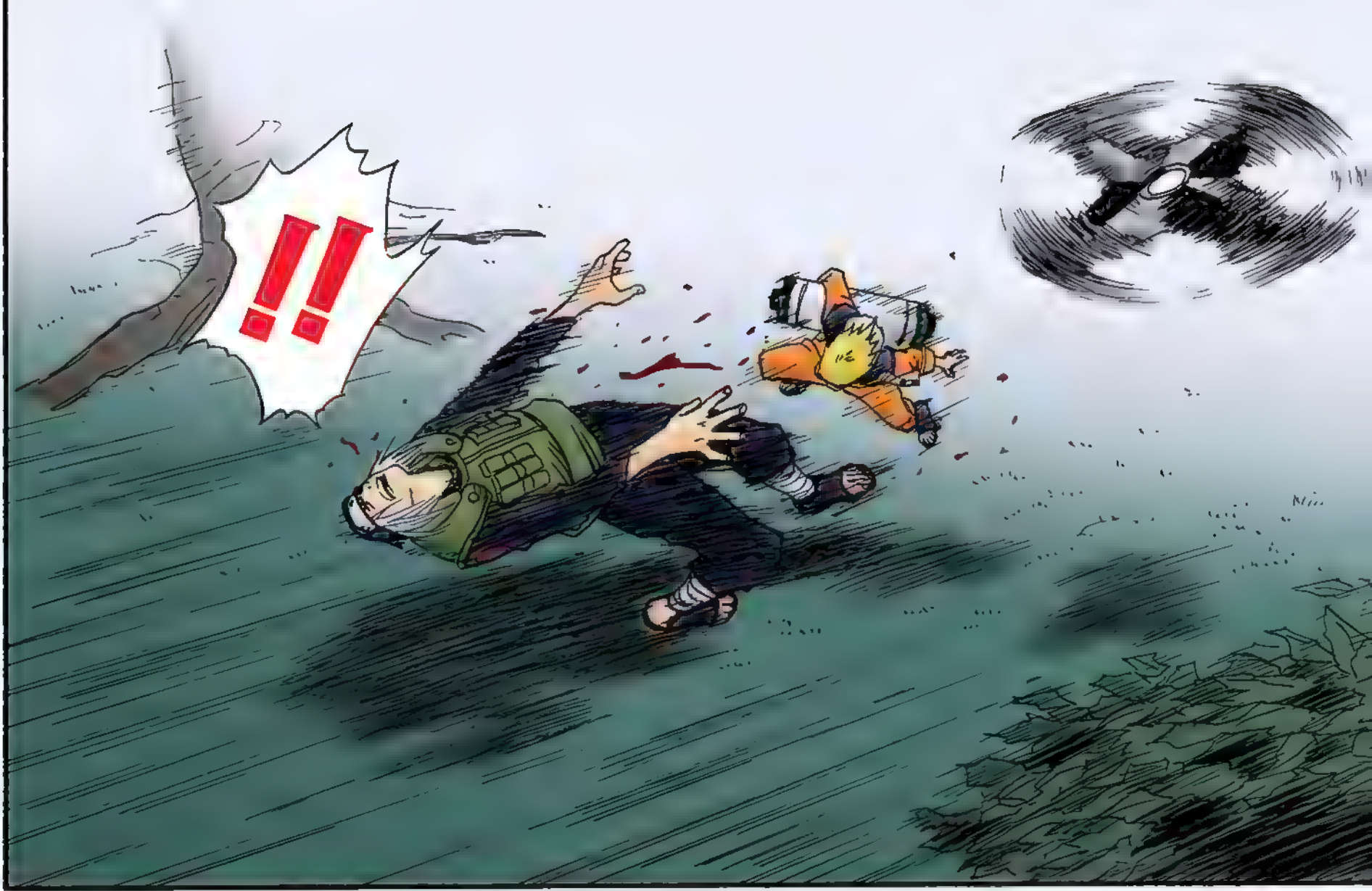


HE IS...
A
CITIZEN
OF
KONOHAGAKURE
VILLAGE...

THAT
BOY
IS NO
LONGER
YOUR
DEMON
FOX!









GET
OUT OF
HERE!
SAVE
YOUR-
SELF!!

STUPID
KID...
SHOULD
HAVE
STAYED...
AWAY!!

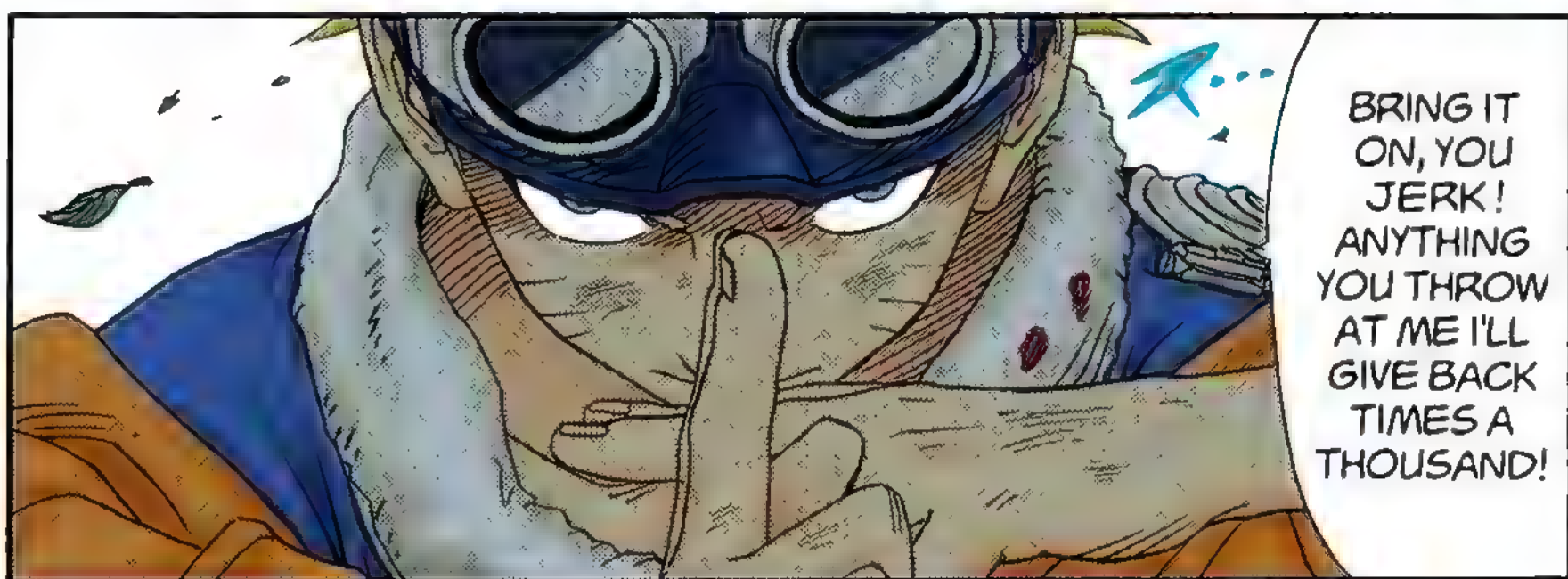


LOUDMOUTH
BRAT!!
I CAN
KILL
YOU
WITH
ONE
BLOW!!

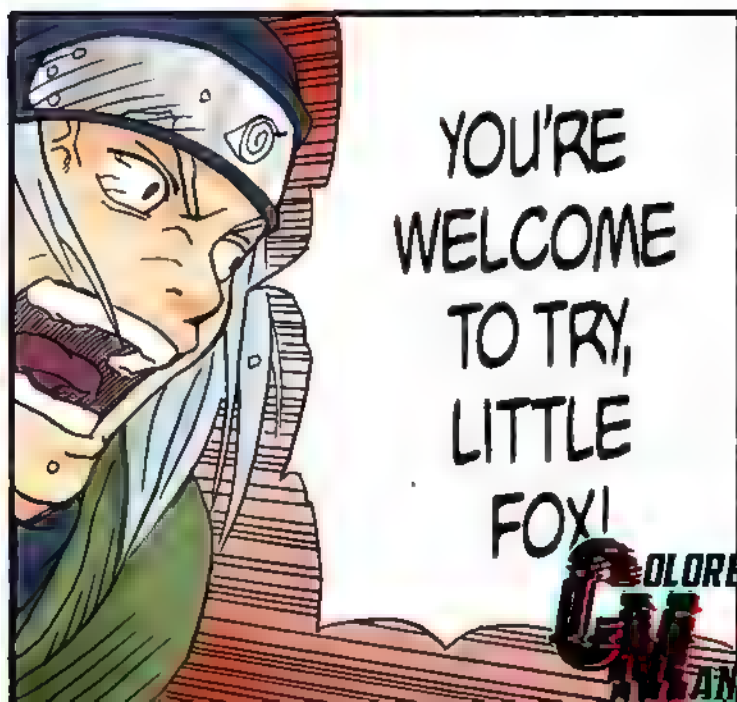
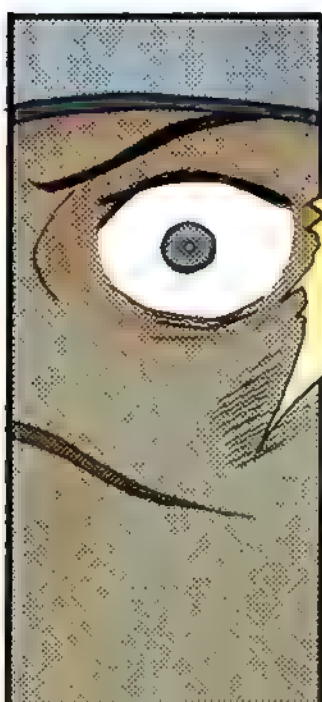


...OR
I'LL
KILL
YOU!

KEEP
AWAY
FROM
MASTER
IRUKA...



BRING IT
ON, YOU
JERK!
ANYTHING
YOU THROW
AT ME I'LL
GIVE BACK
TIMES A
THOUSAND!



YOU'RE
WELCOME
TO TRY,
LITTLE
FOX!

術

じゆつ

SHADOW
DOPPEL-
GANGER!!

!!

ART OF
THE

影分身の

かげ

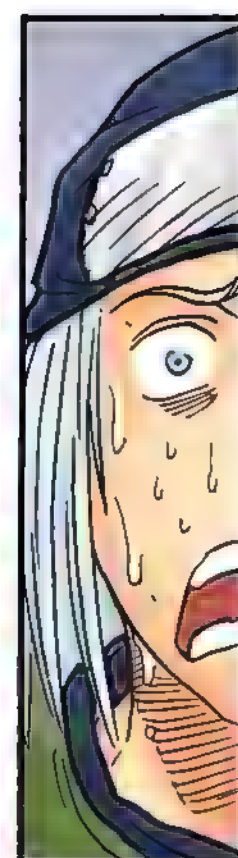
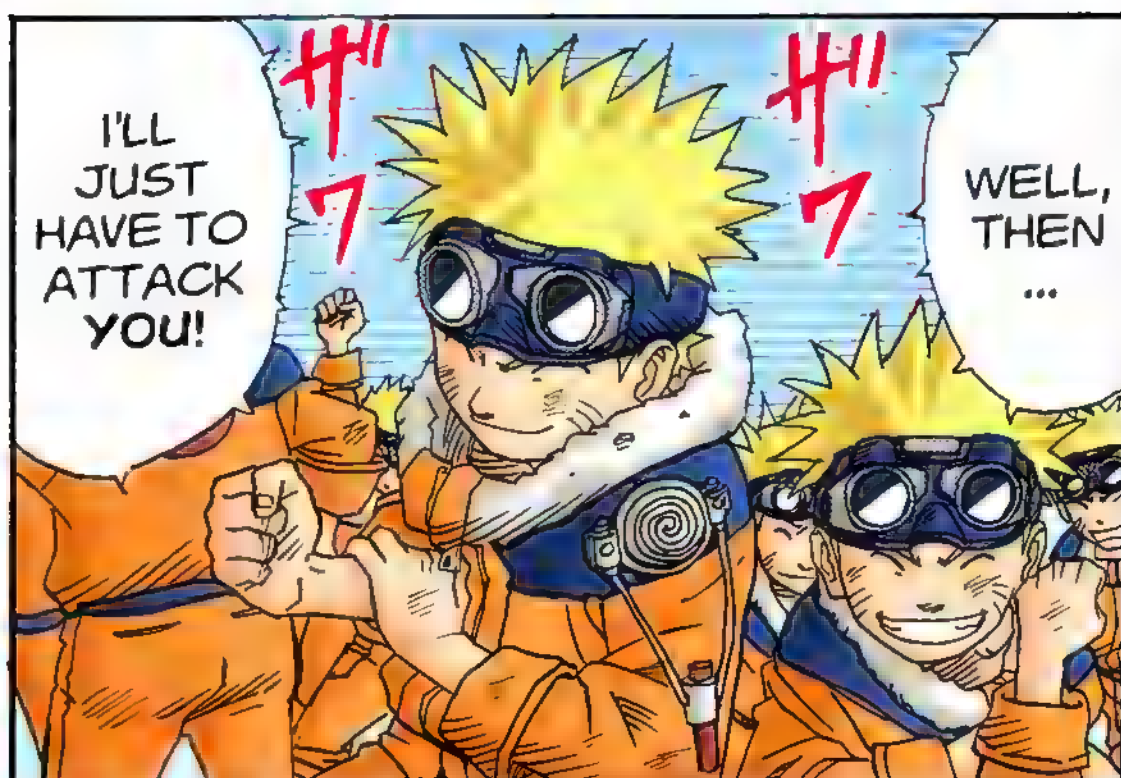
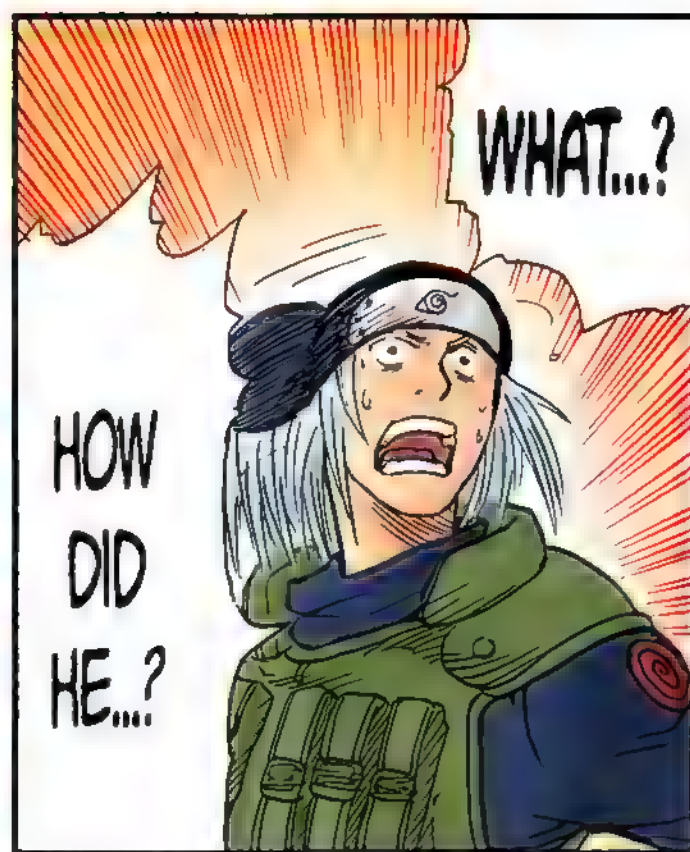
ぶん

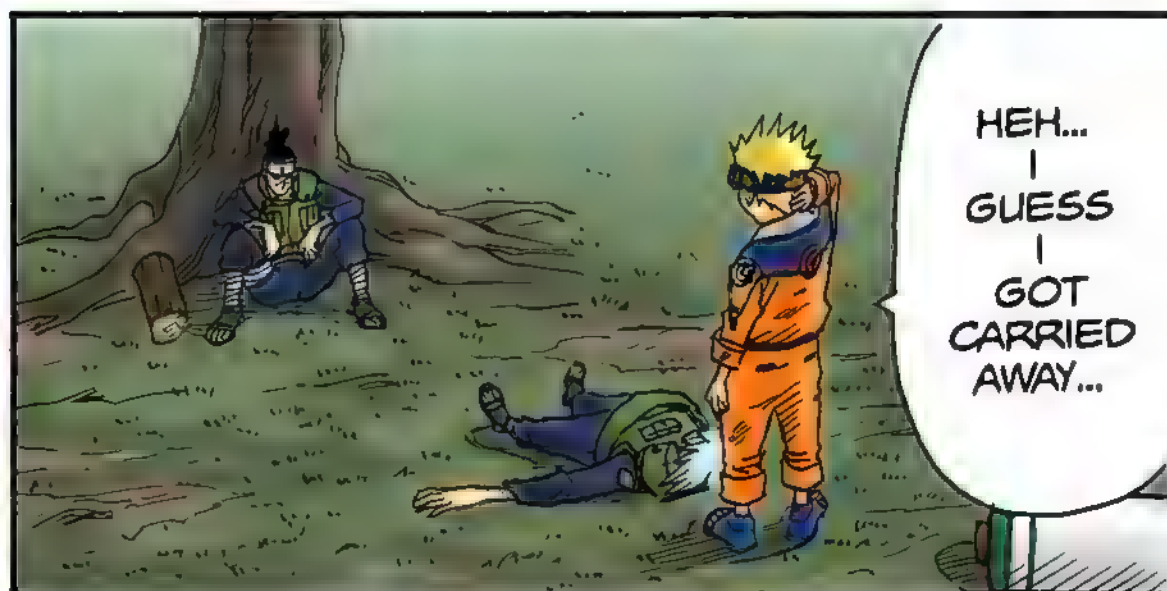
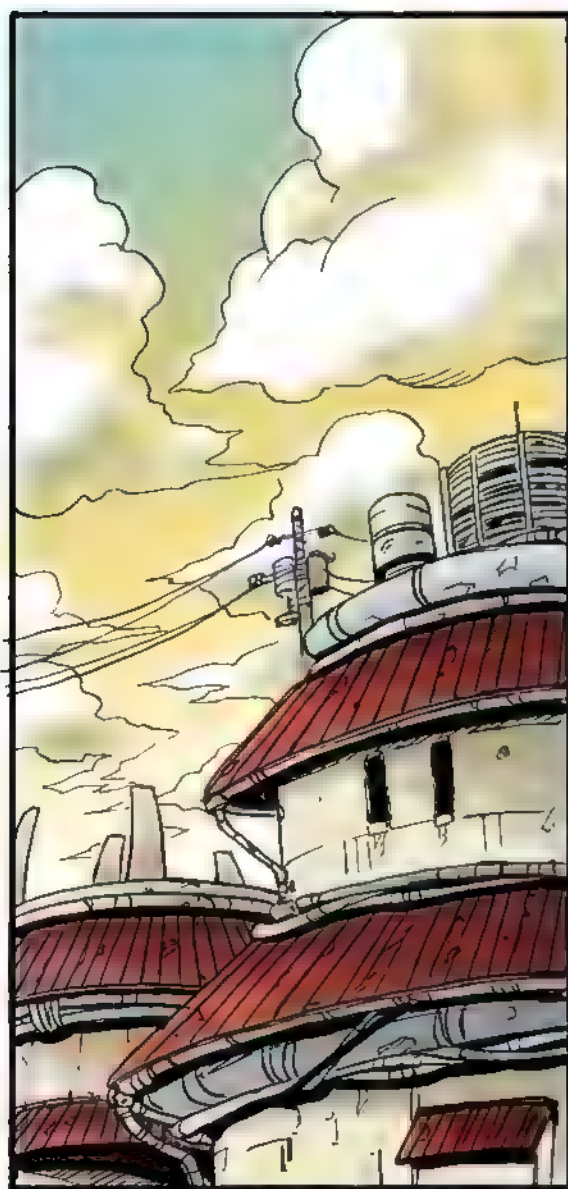
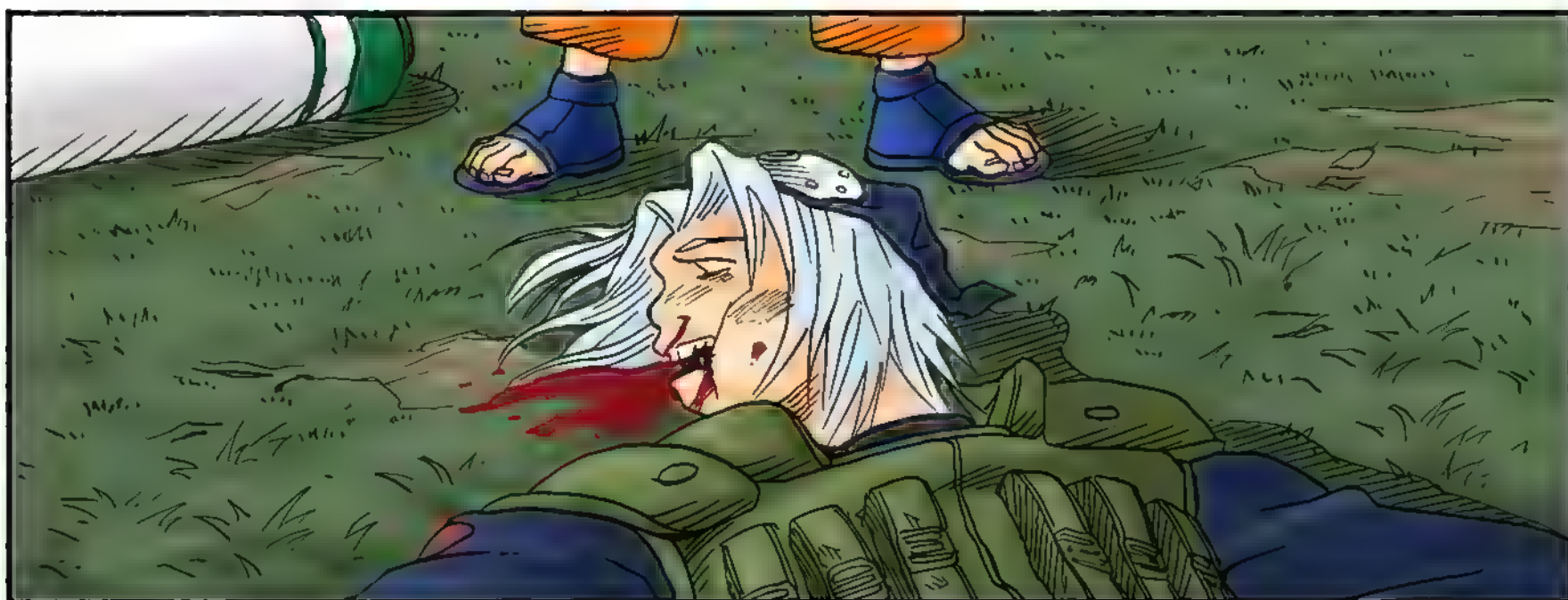
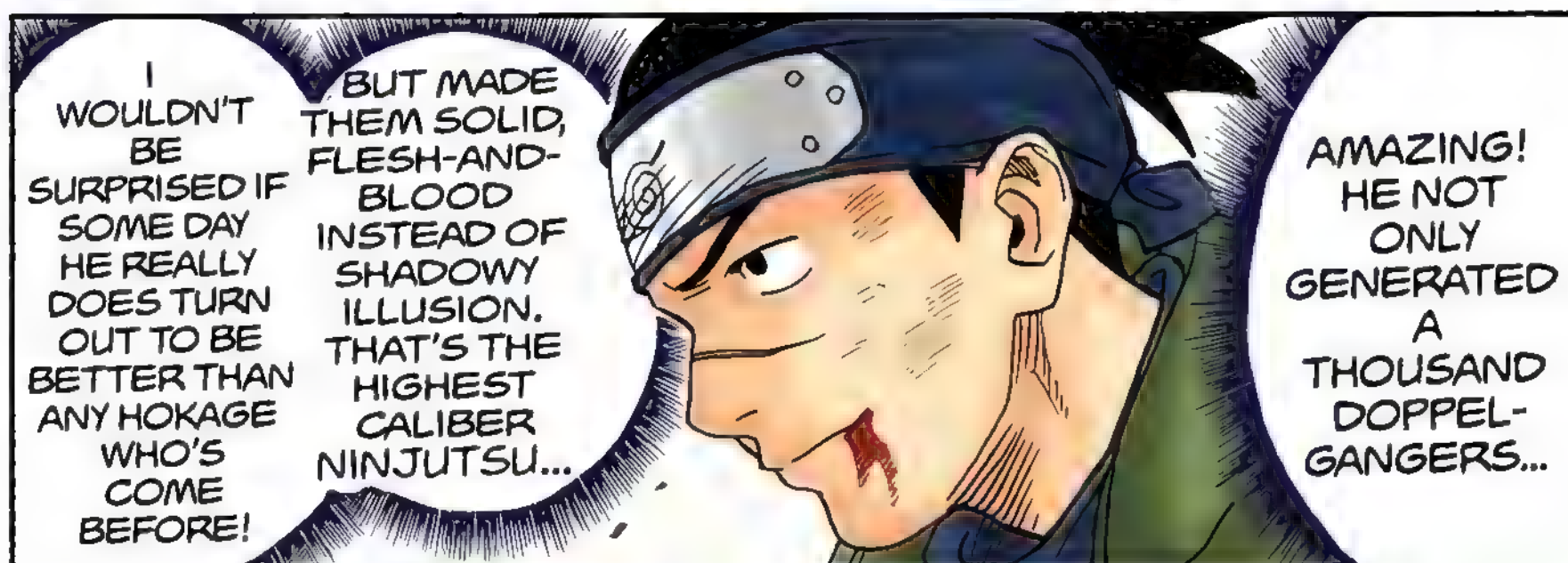
しん

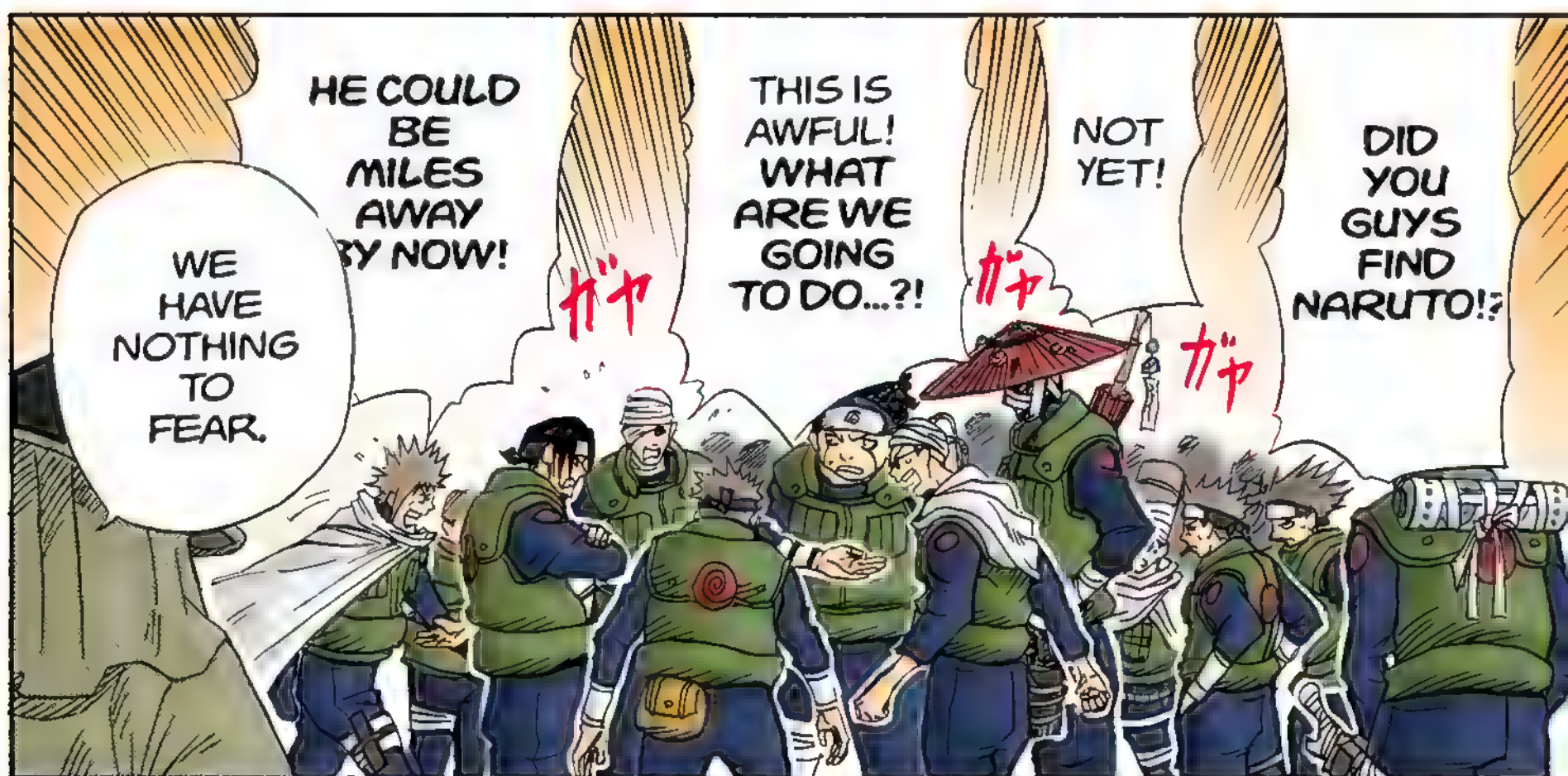
!!!

!!









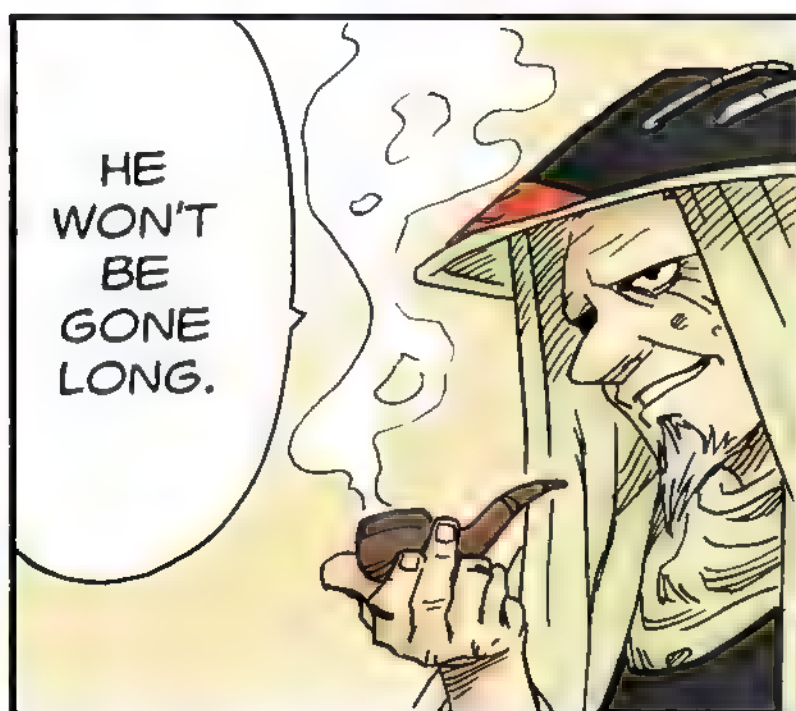
WE
HAVE
NOTHING
TO
FEAR.

HE COULD
BE
MILES
AWAY
BY NOW!

THIS IS
AWFUL!
WHAT
ARE WE
GOING
TO DO...?!

NOT
YET!

DID YOU
GUYS
FIND
NARUTO!?

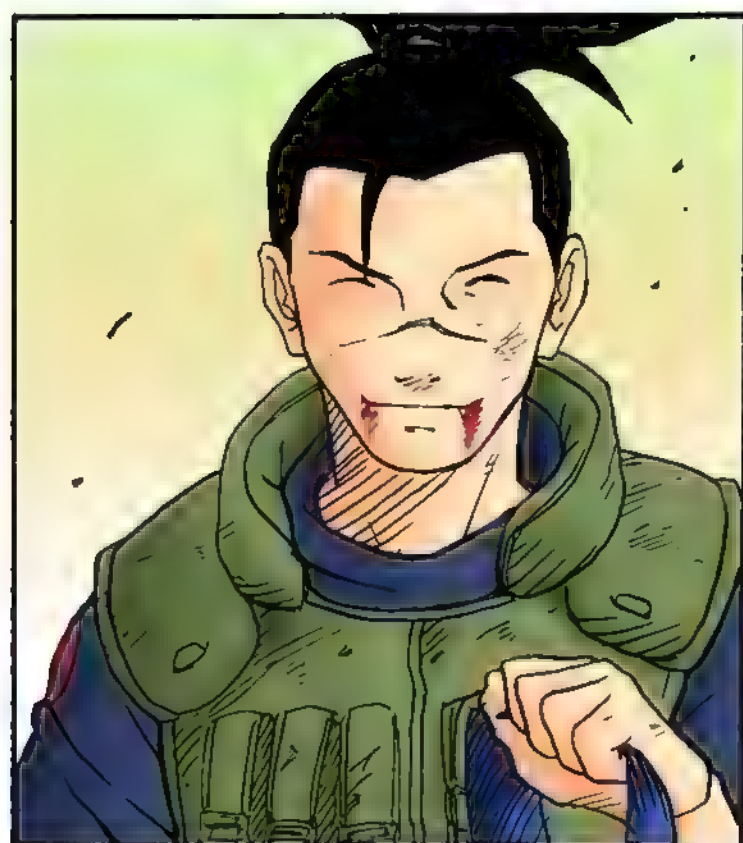


HE
WON'T
BE
GONE
LONG.



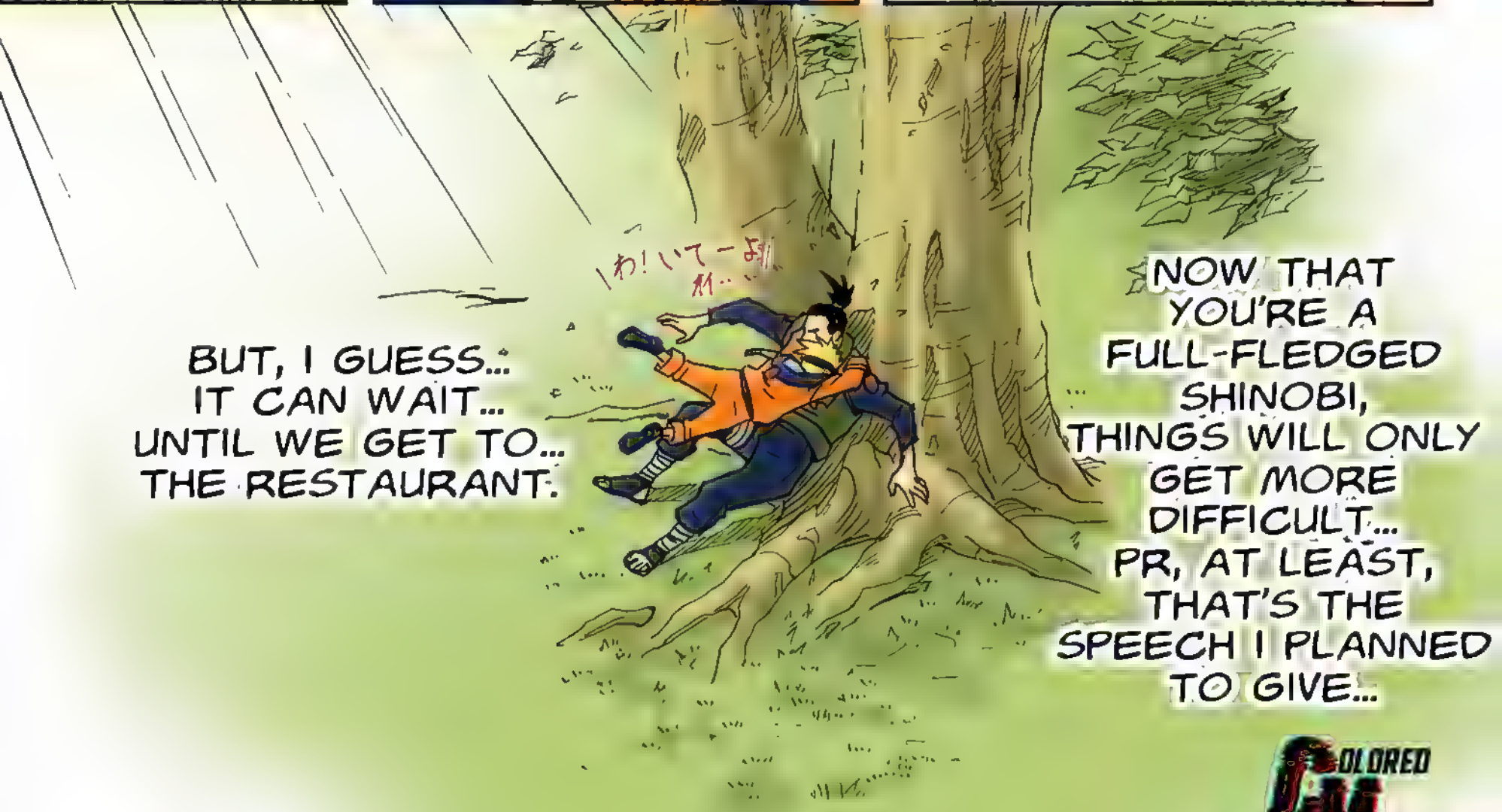
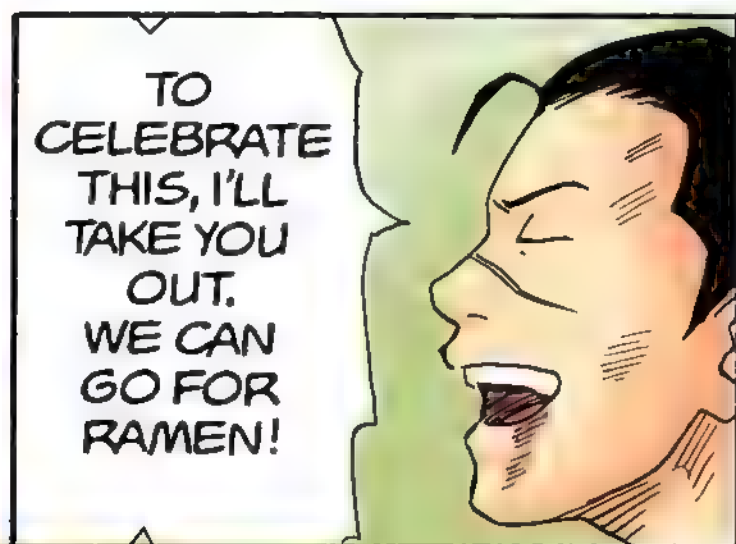
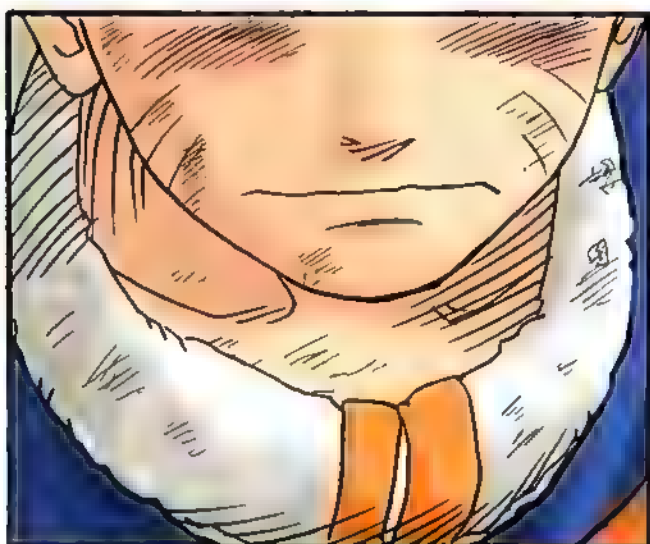
LORD
HOKAGE...

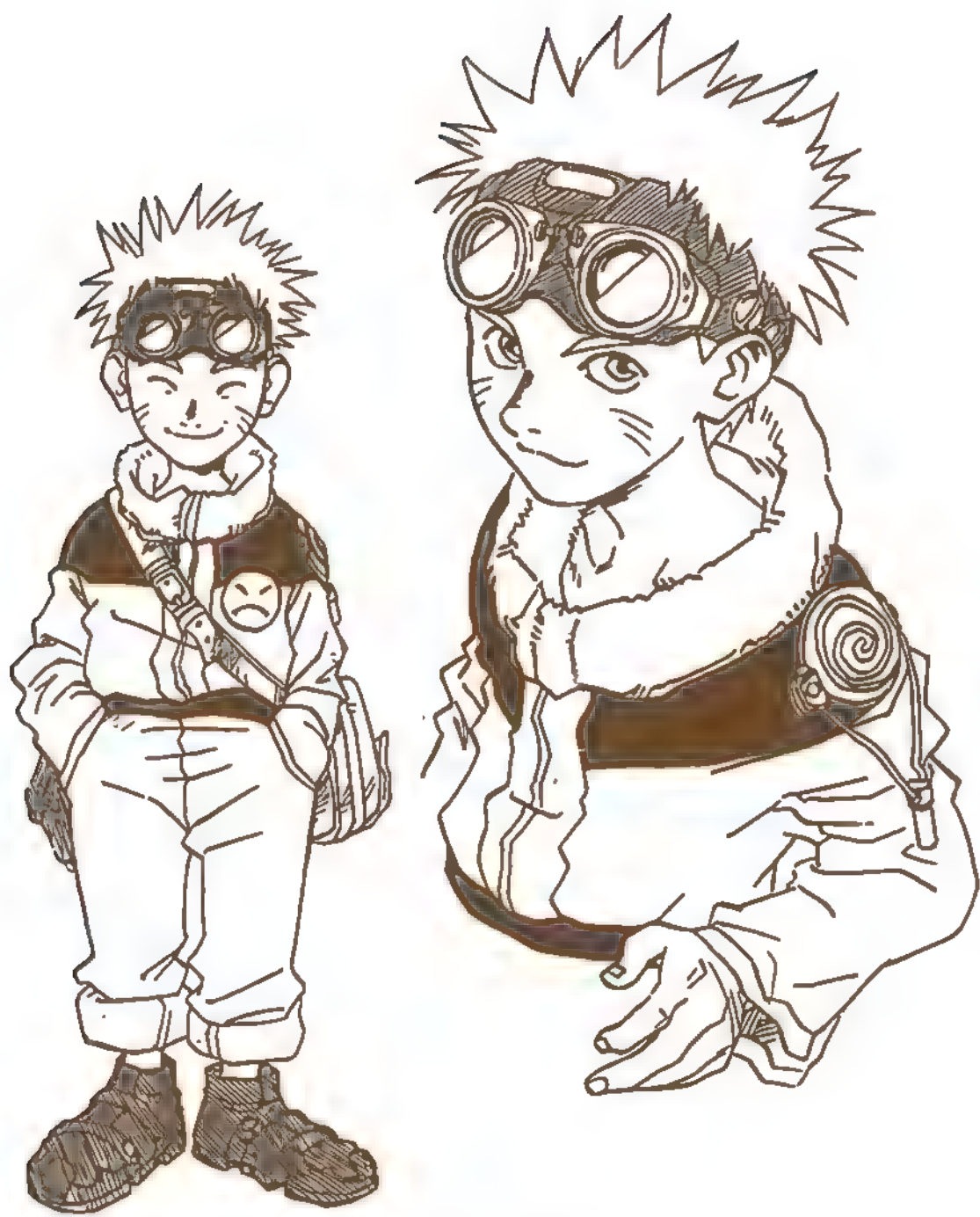
!?



YES,
NARUTO.
YOU
CAN
OPEN
YOUR
EYES.

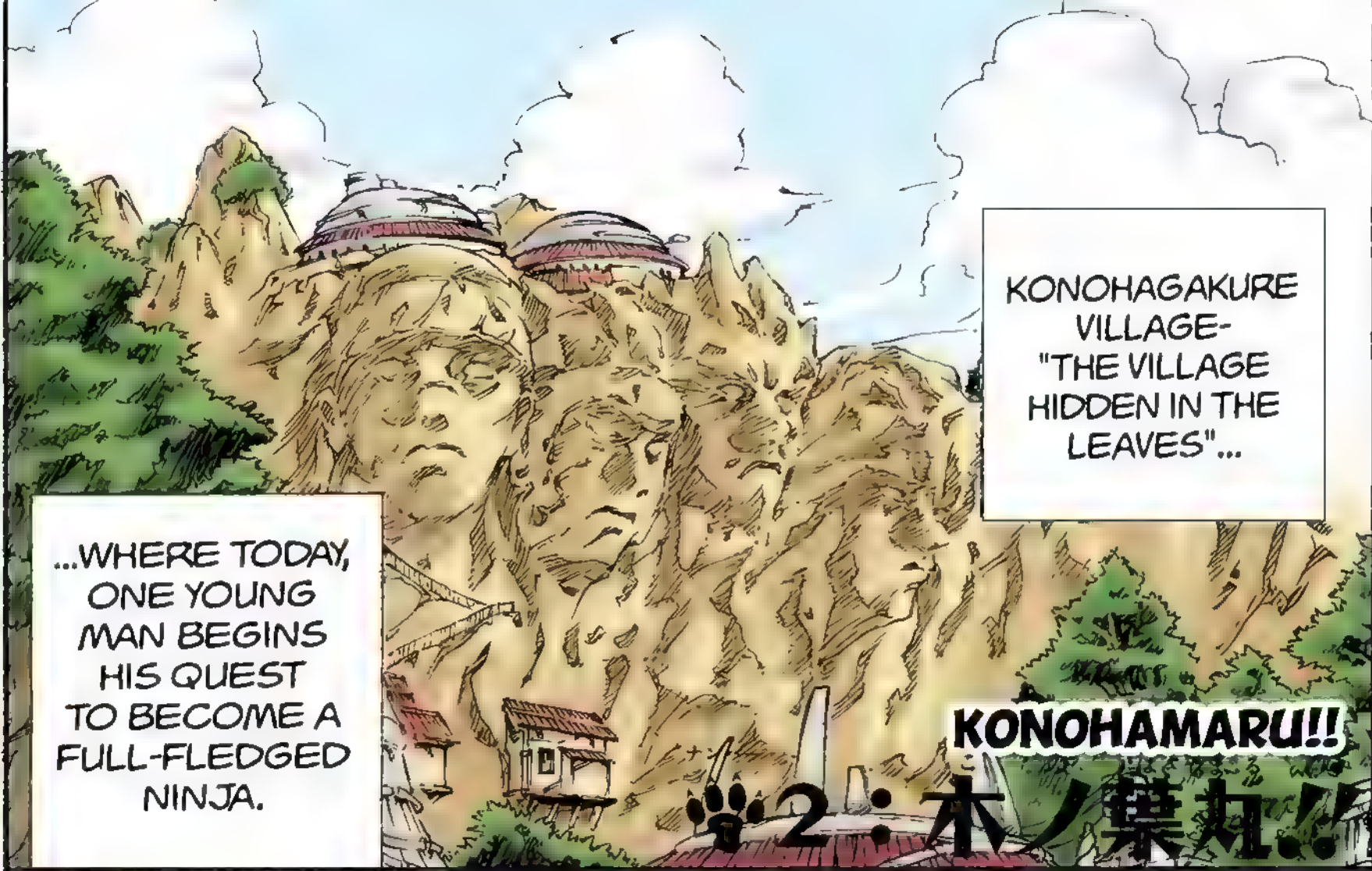
NOW,
SENSEI...
MAY
I...?





This is the very first sketch of Naruto that I drew. It was for a one-shot story in the Japanese *Weekly Shonen Jump*'s special seasonal edition, *Akamaru Jump*. Notice that he wears boots instead of *zori* (traditional Japanese sandals).

In the one-shot story, *Naruto* wasn't a ninja comic at all, but just about magic and sorcery. Even though the setup was completely different from the current storyline, it was the very first character-driven manga that I ever drew, and I liked the character so I decided to keep using him. But drawing the goggles each time was a pain! That's why I came up with the idea for the ninja *hitai-ate* (headband).

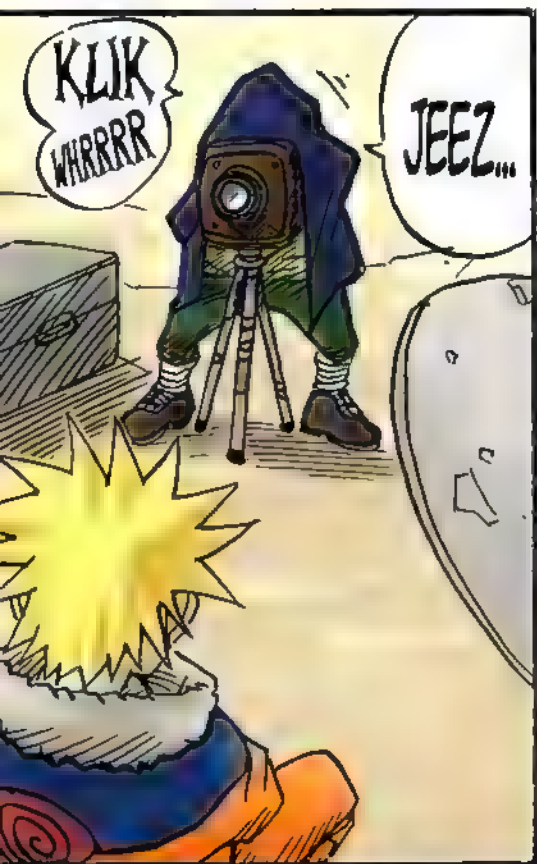


KONOHAGAKURE
VILLAGE-
"THE VILLAGE
HIDDEN IN THE
LEAVES"...

...WHERE TODAY,
ONE YOUNG
MAN BEGINS
HIS QUEST
TO BECOME A
FULL-FLEDGED
NINJA.

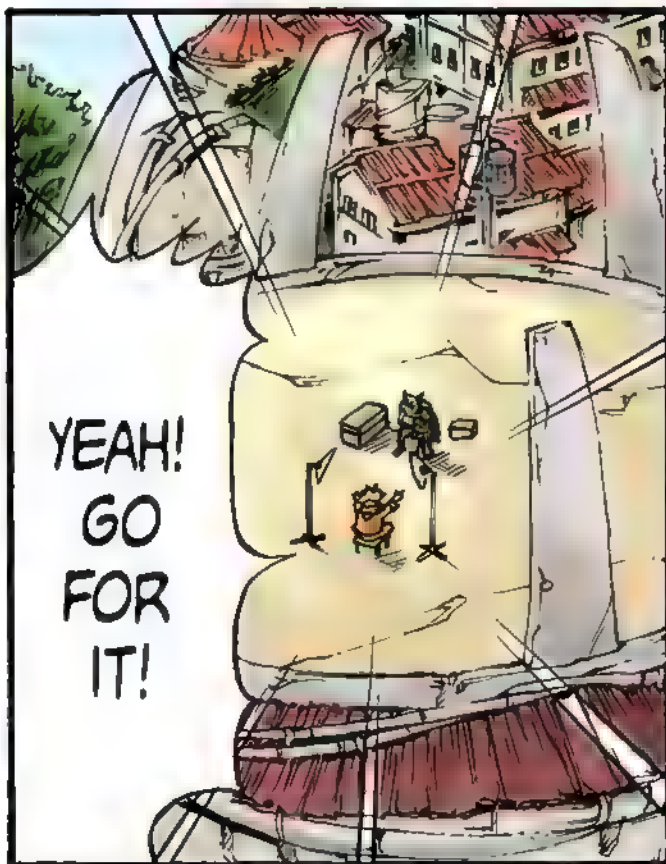
KONOHAMARU!!

2: 木の葉丸!!



KLK
WHRRRR

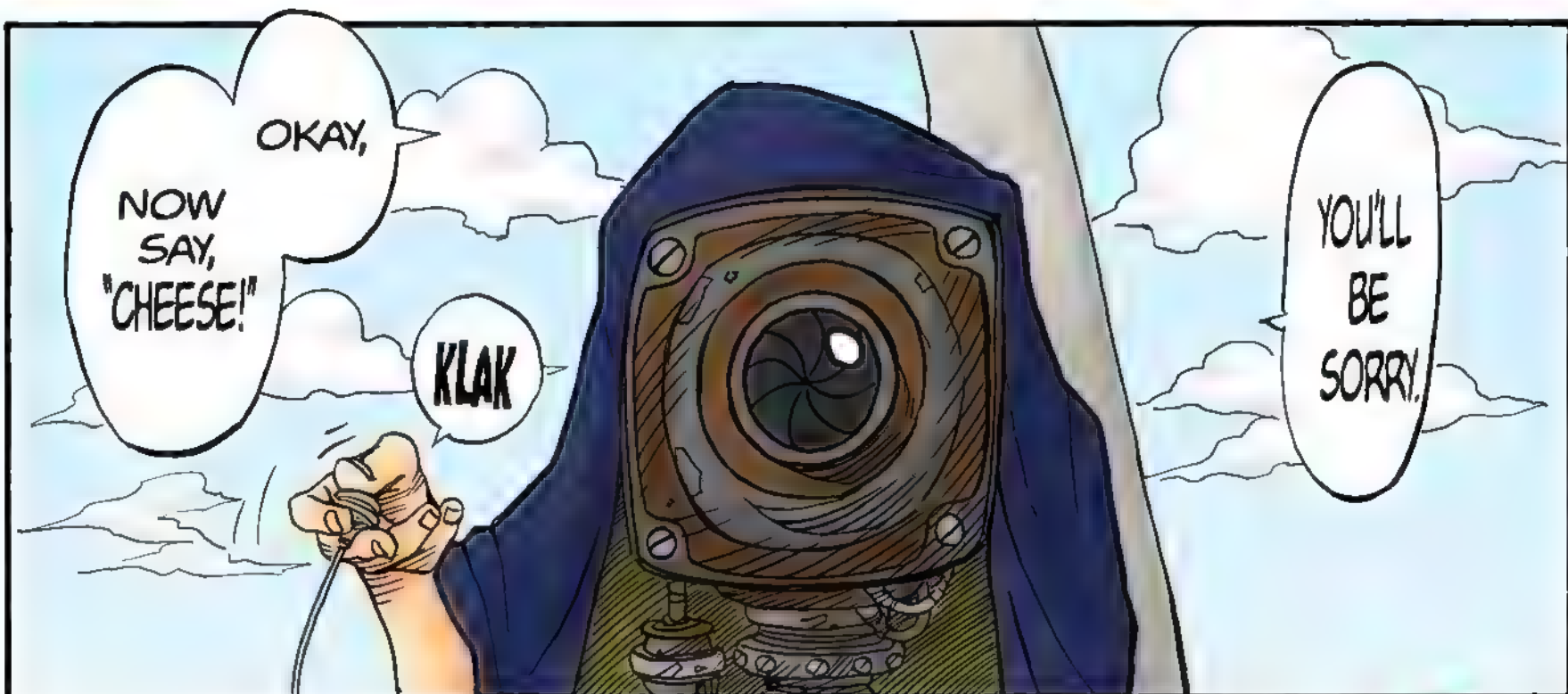
JEEZ...



YEAH!
GO
FOR
IT!



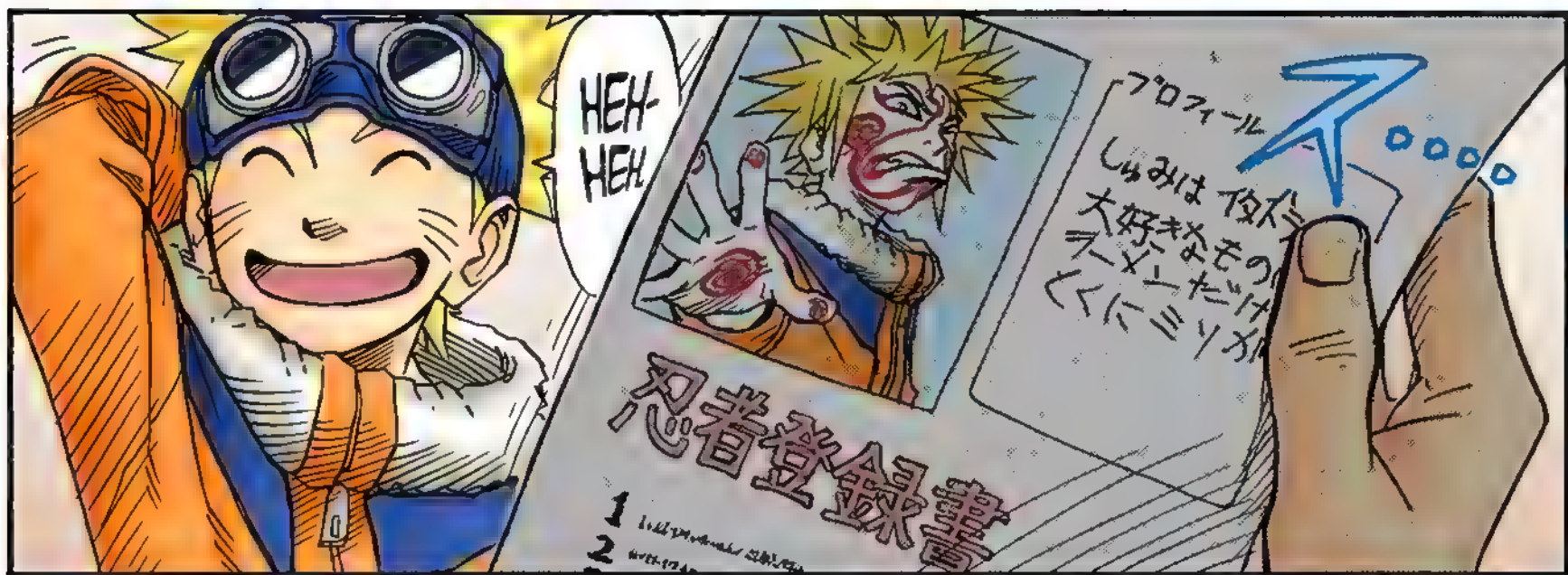
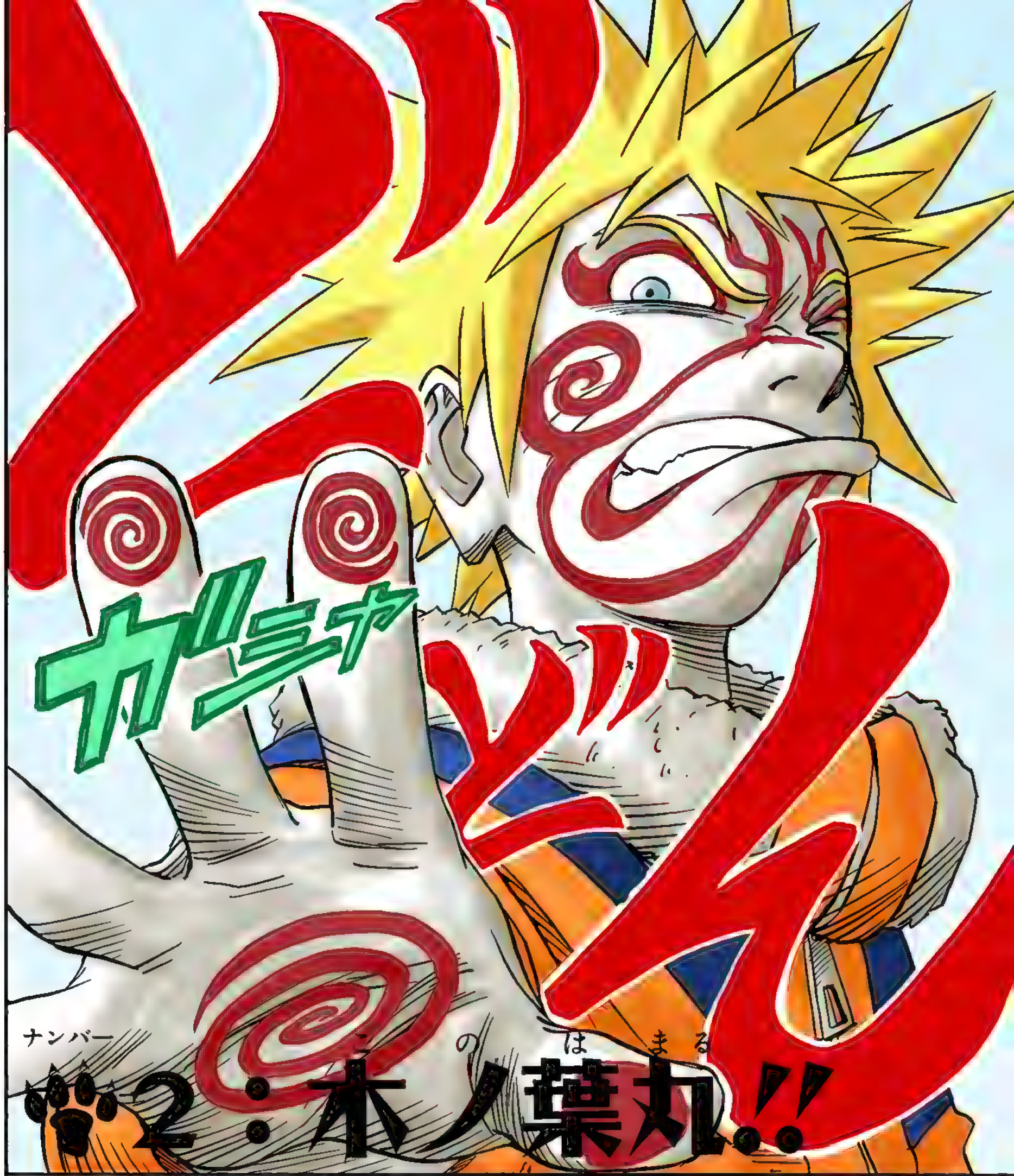
YOU...
WANT ME
TO TAKE THE
PICTURE WITH
YOU LOOKING
LIKE THAT?

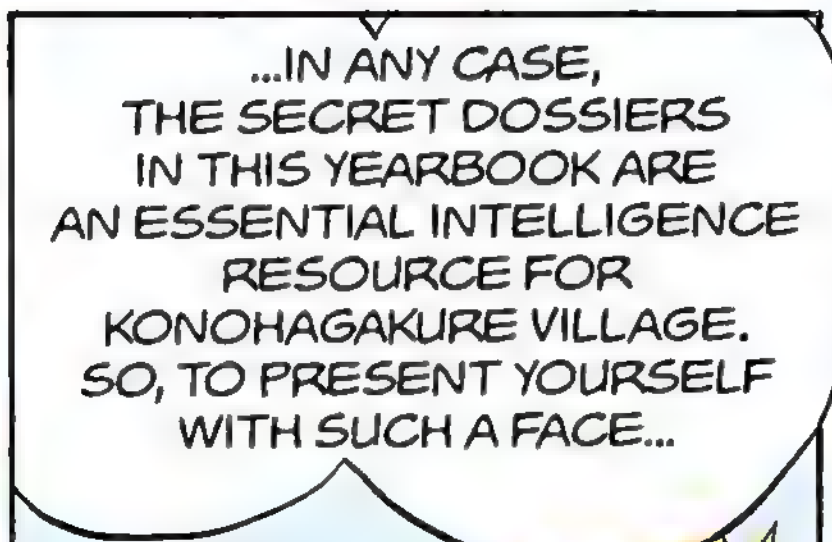
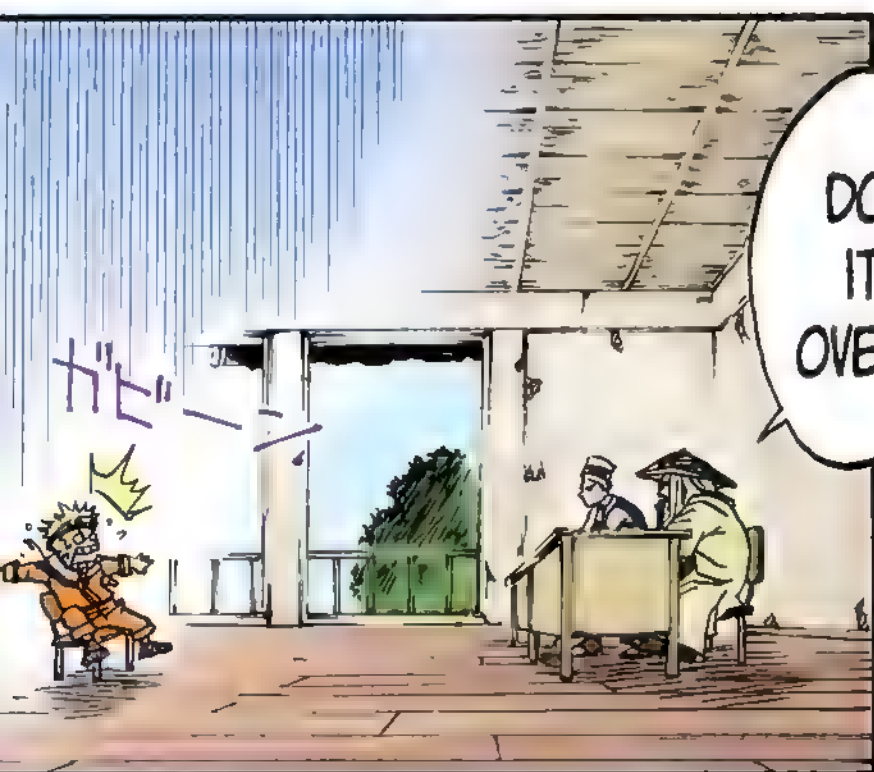
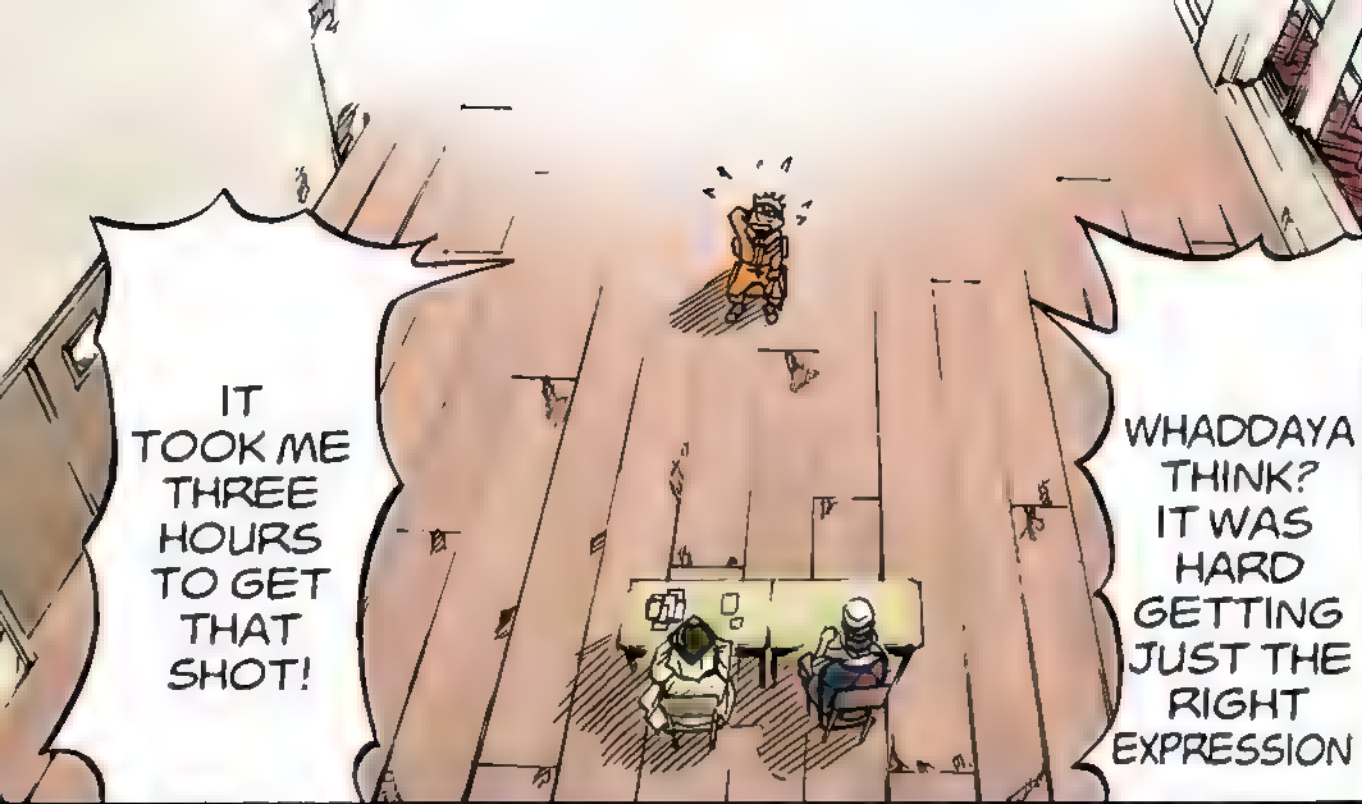


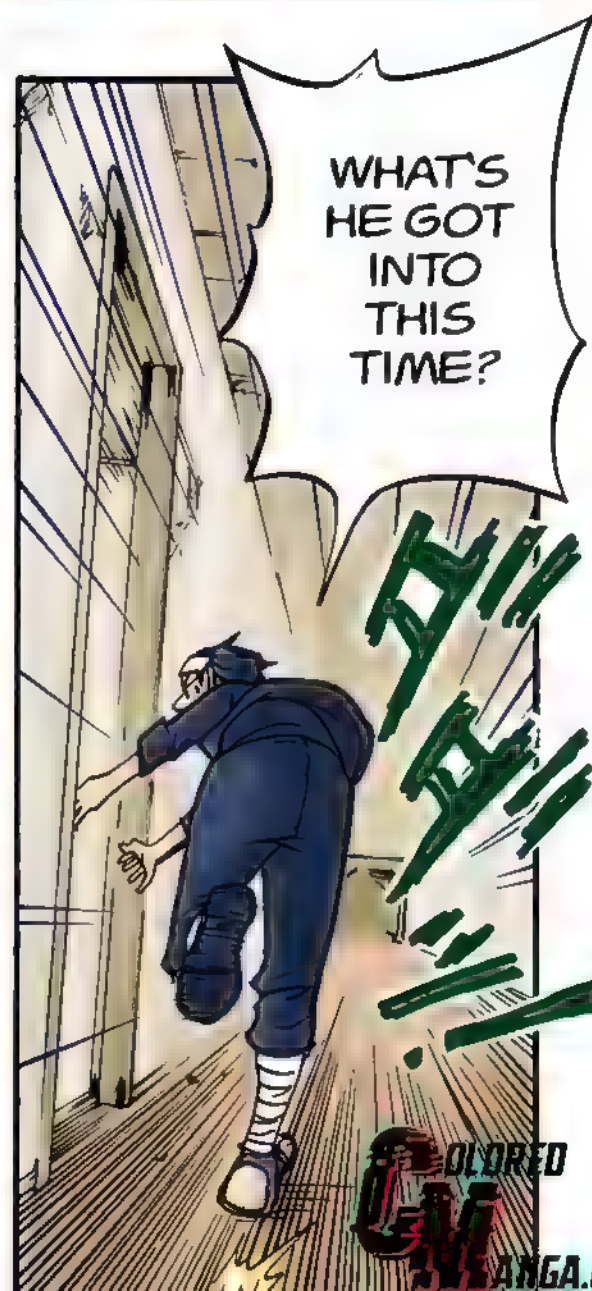
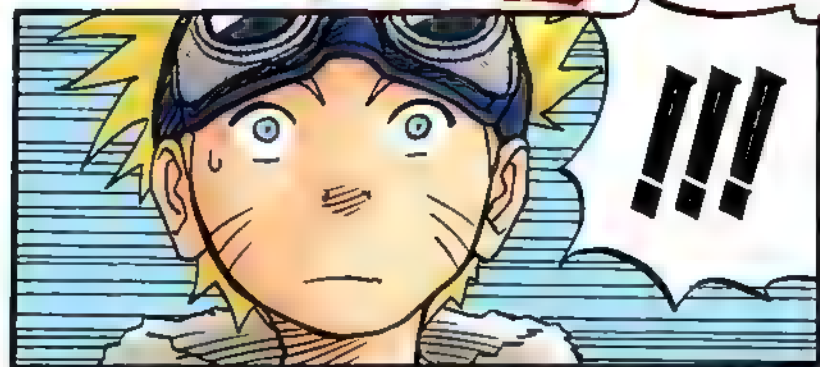
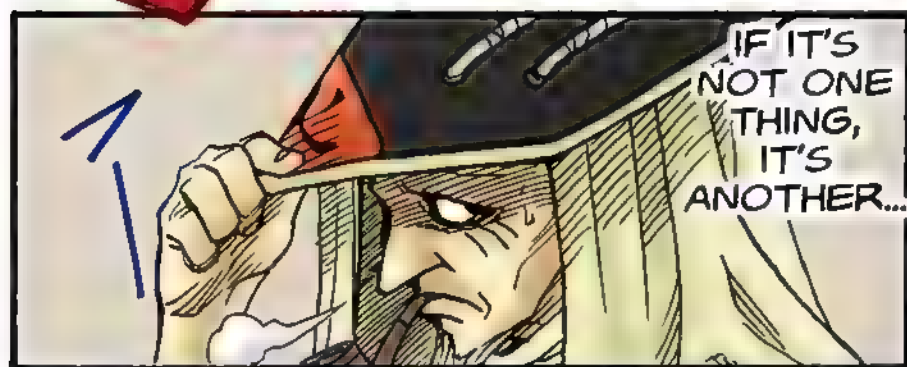
OKAY,
NOW
SAY,
"CHEESE!"

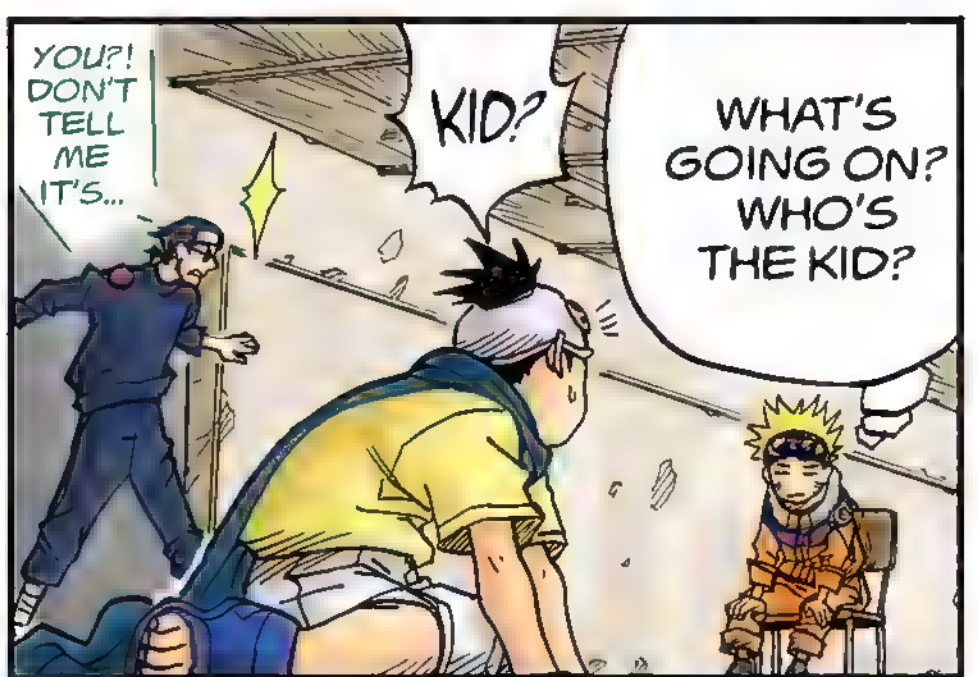
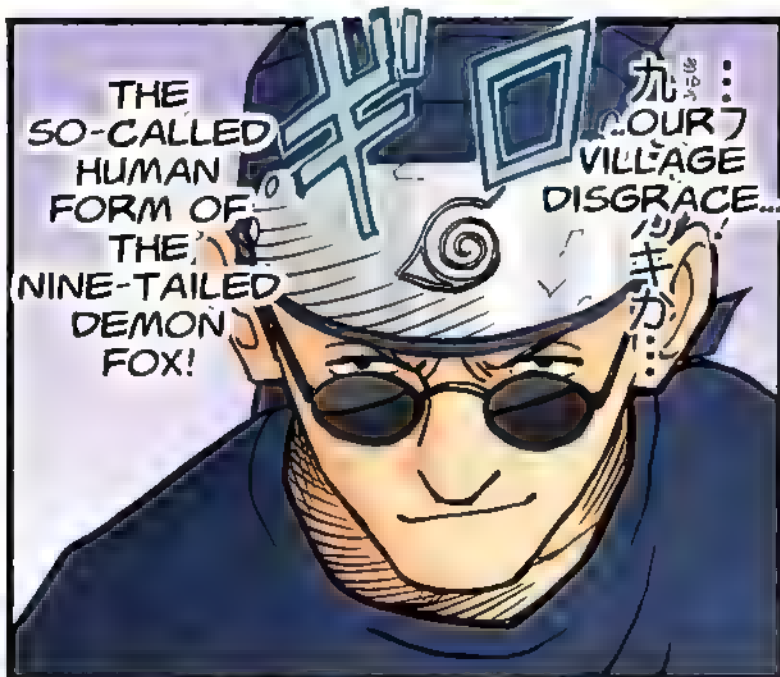
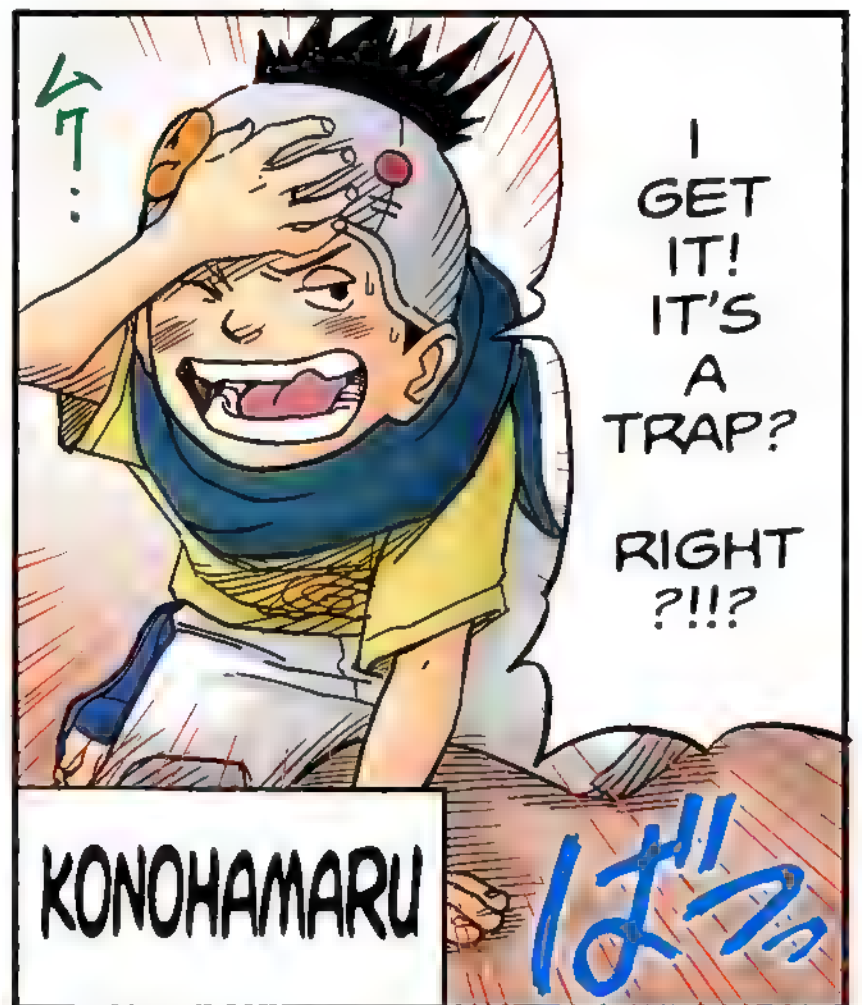
KLAK

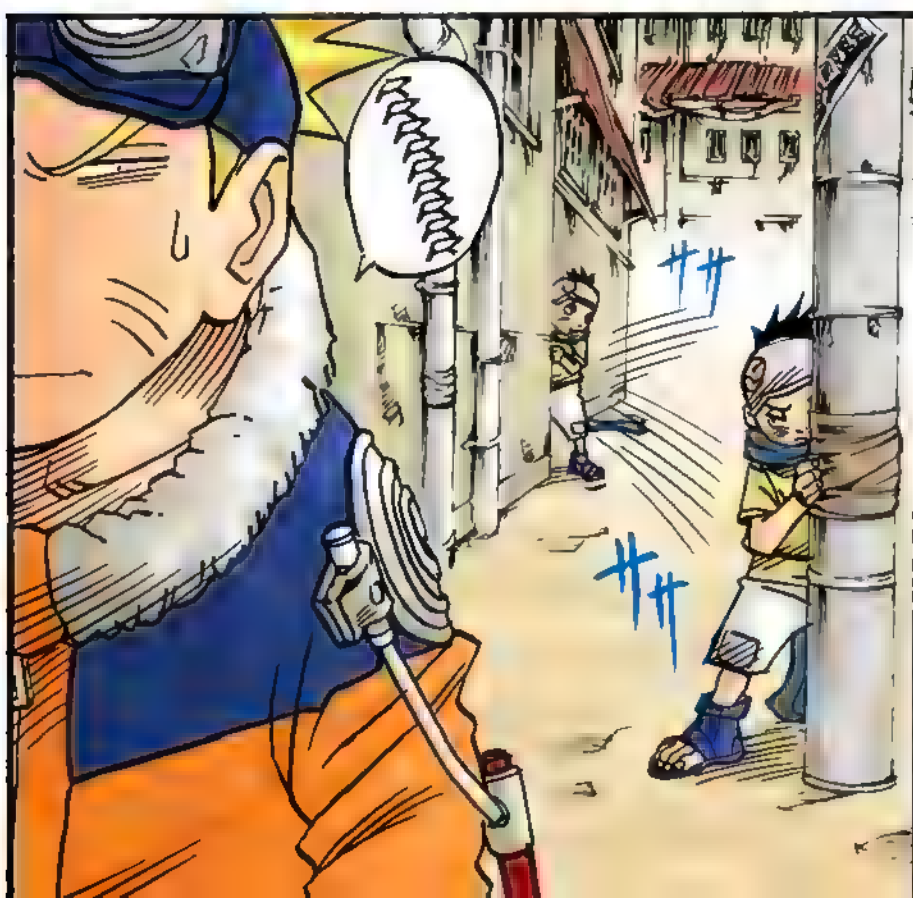
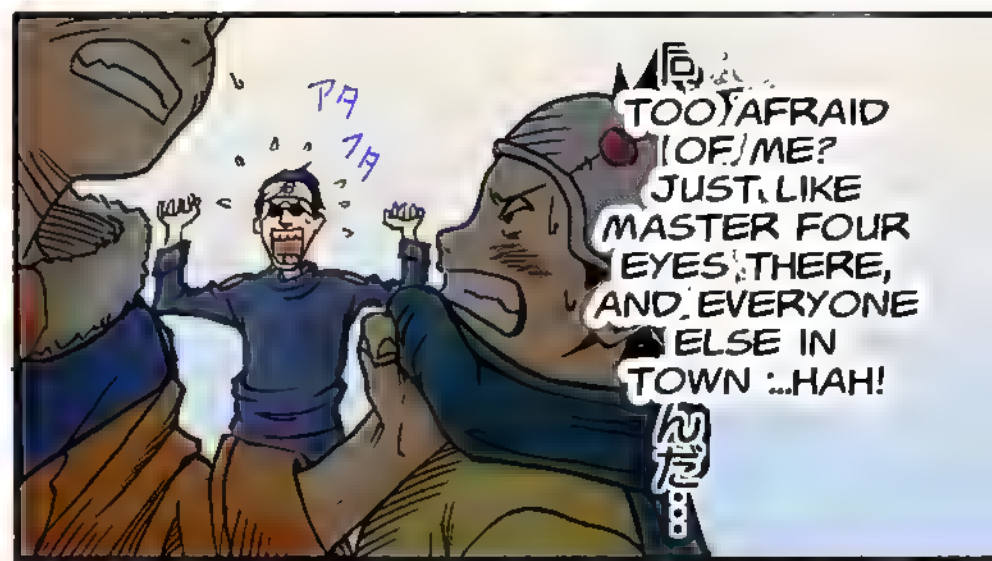
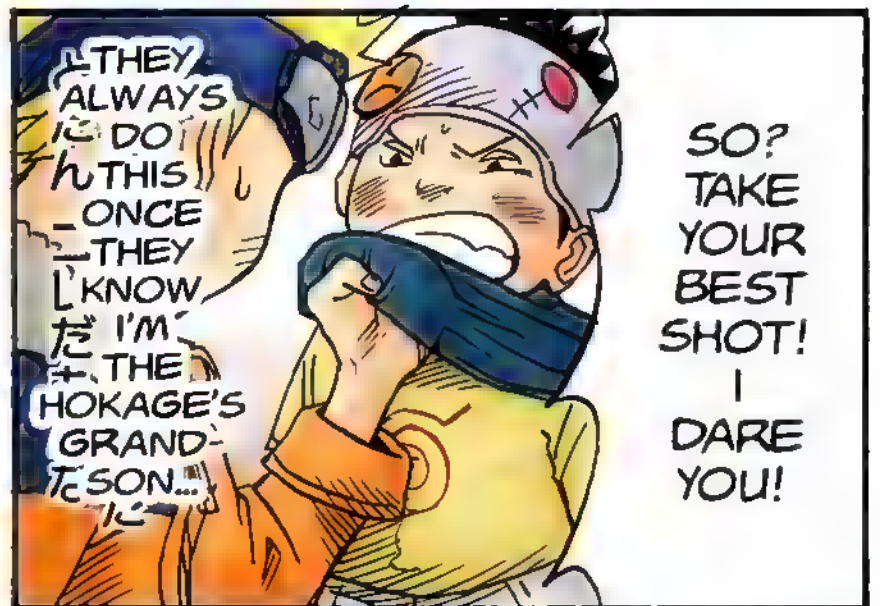
YOU'LL
BE
SORRY!

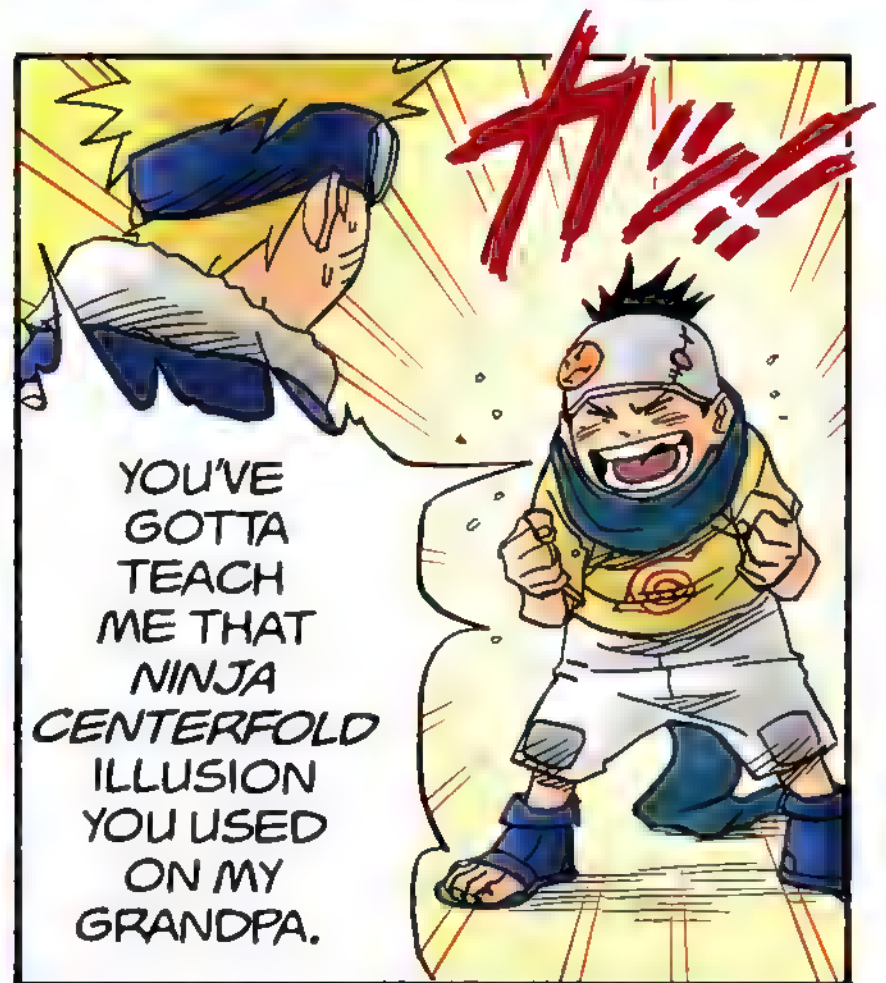
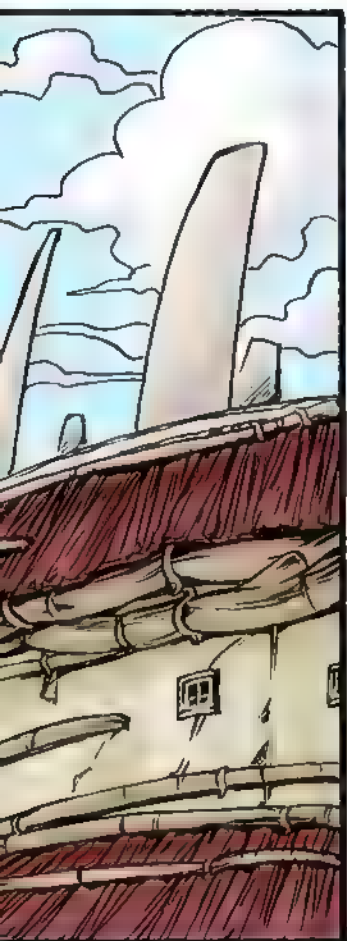
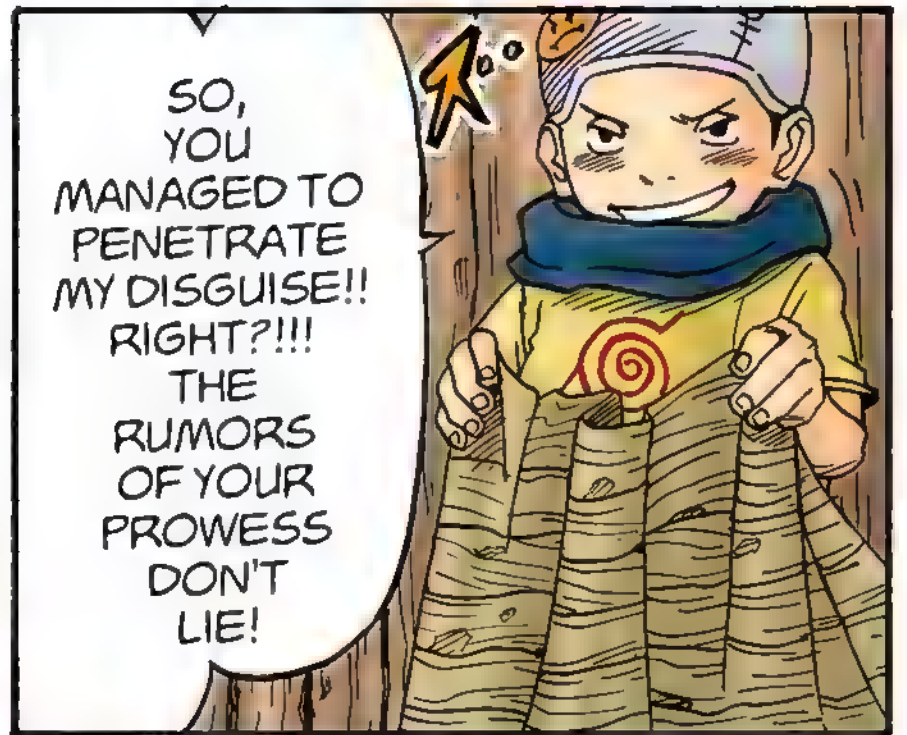
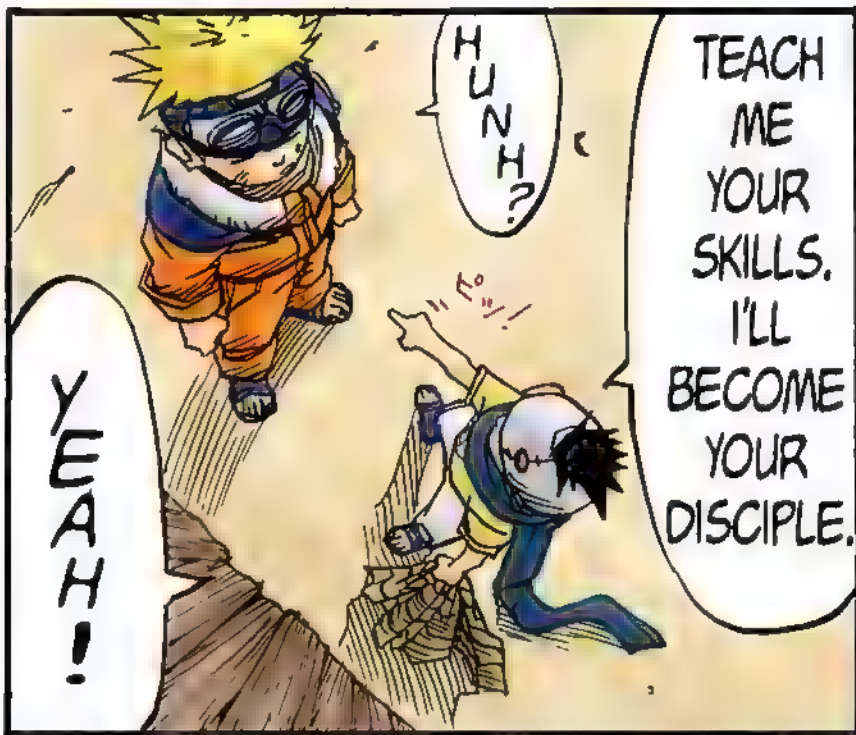
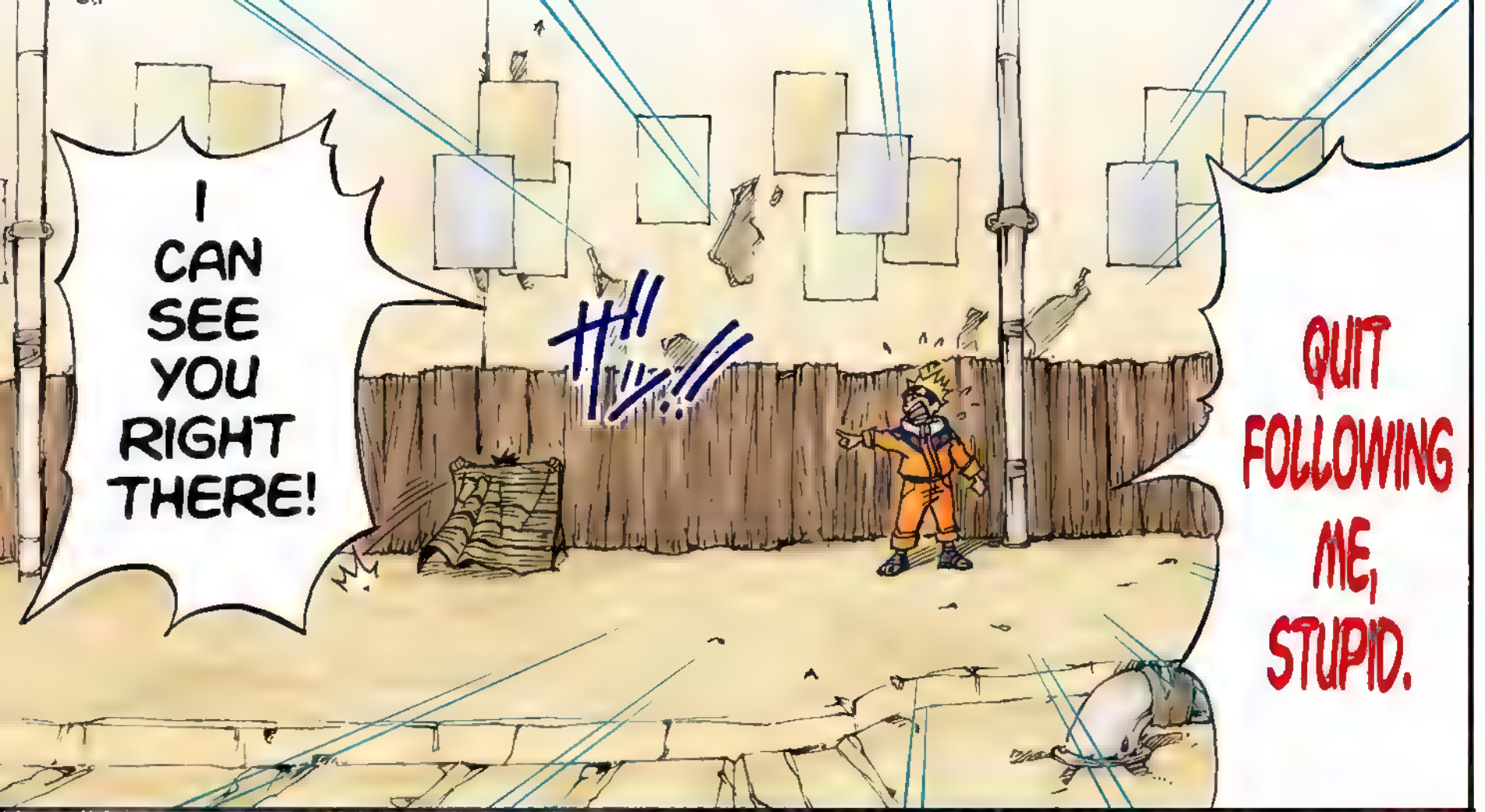


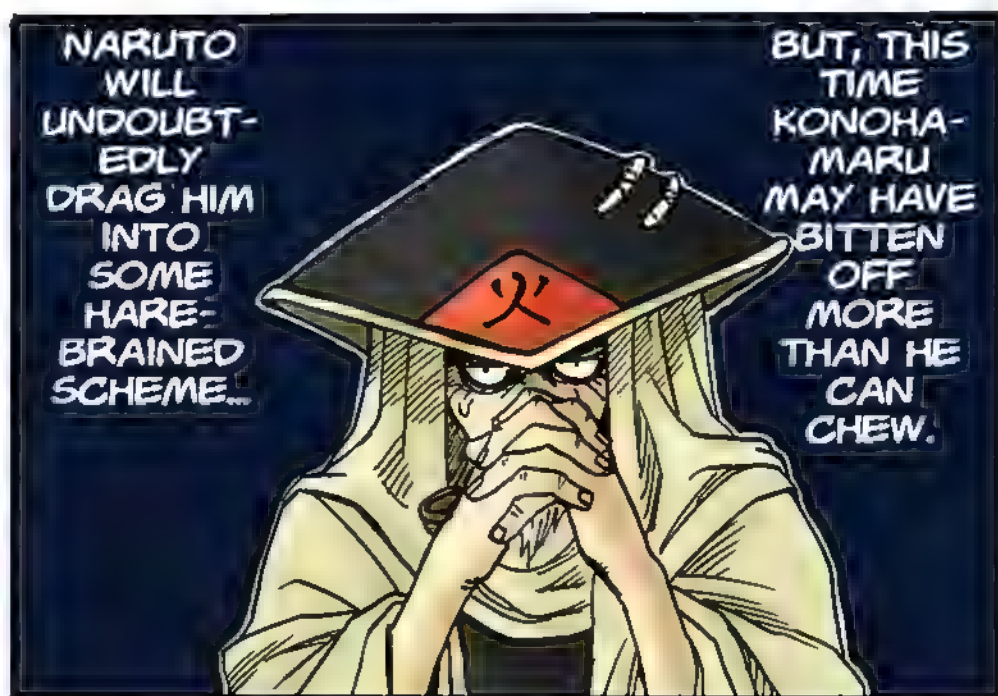
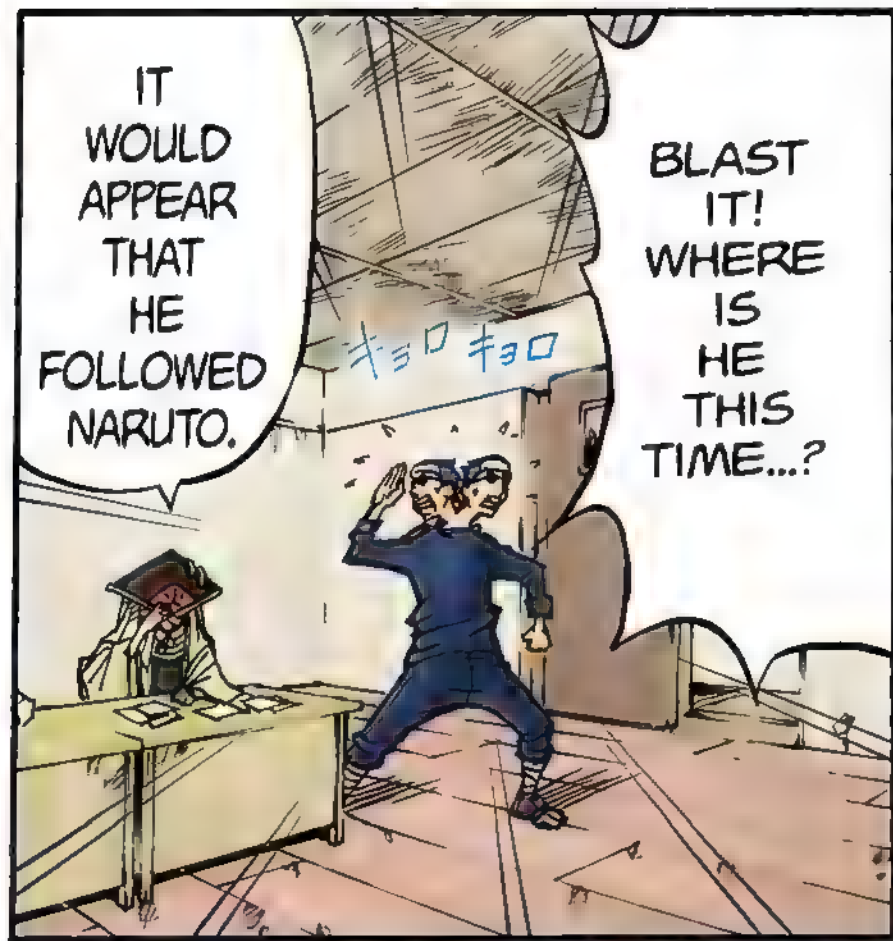
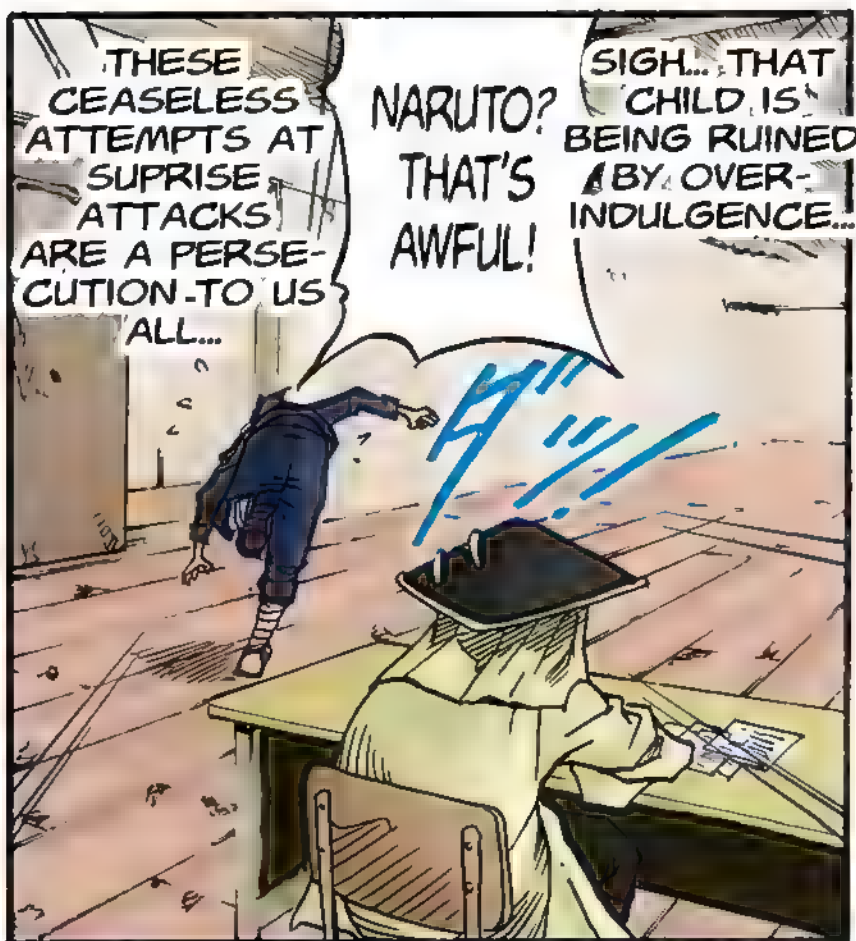


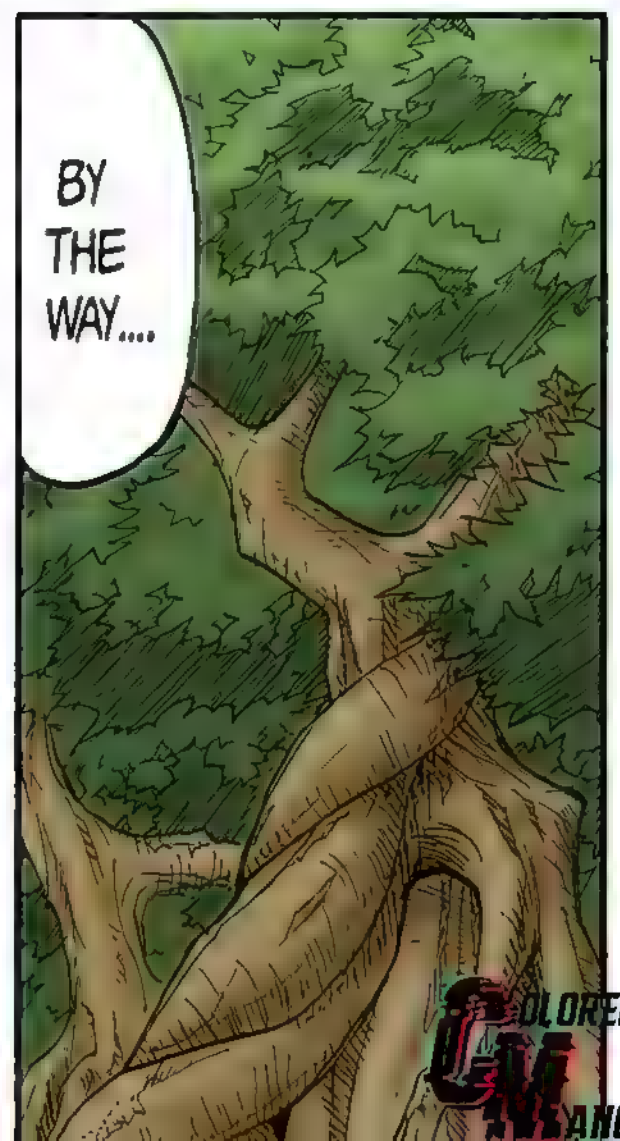
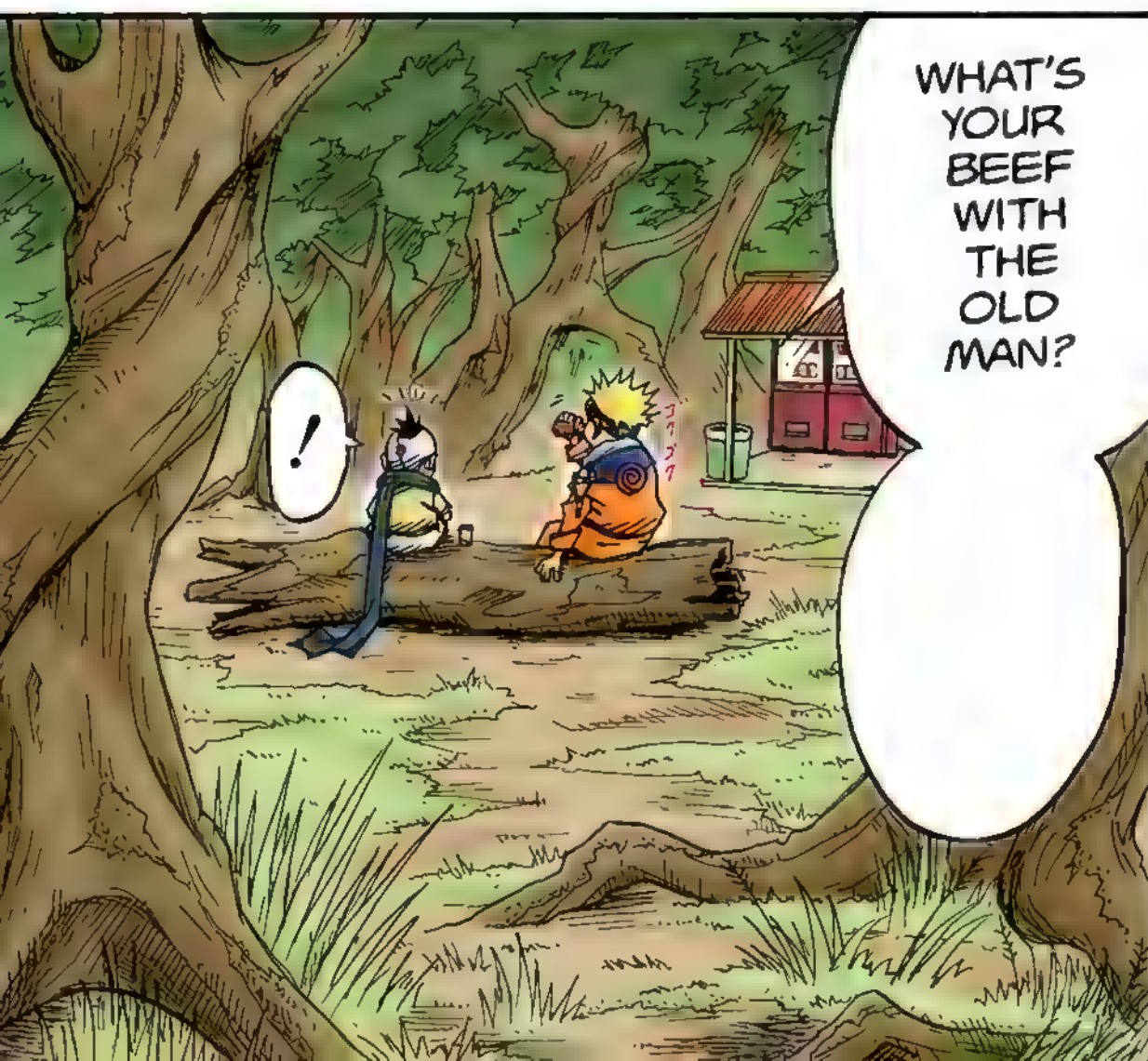
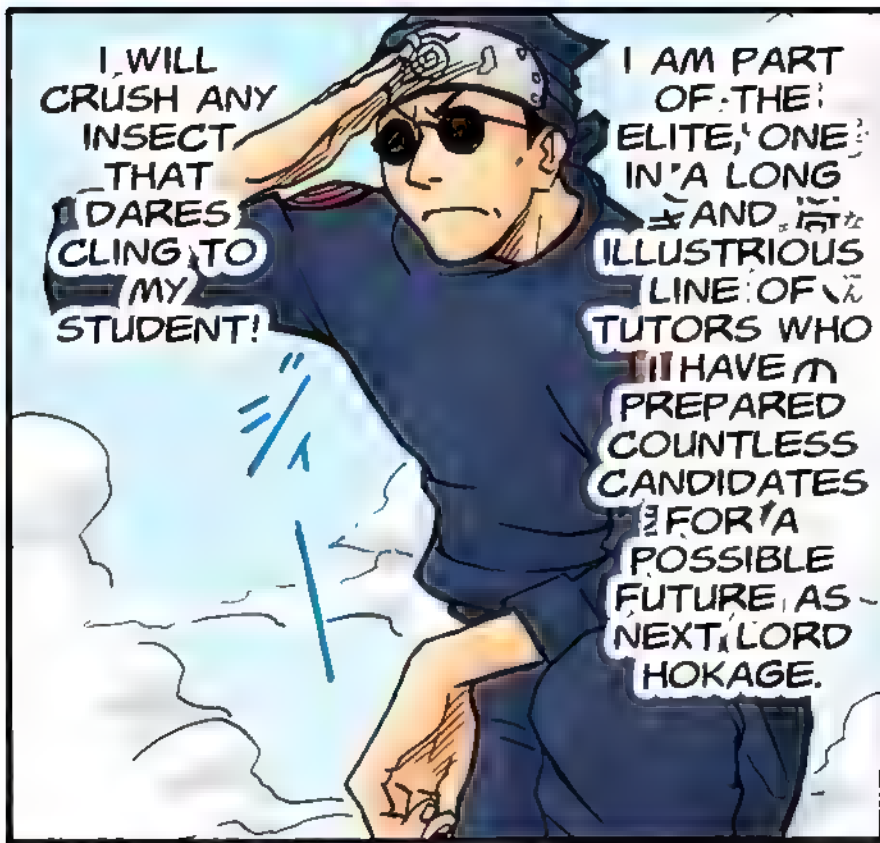


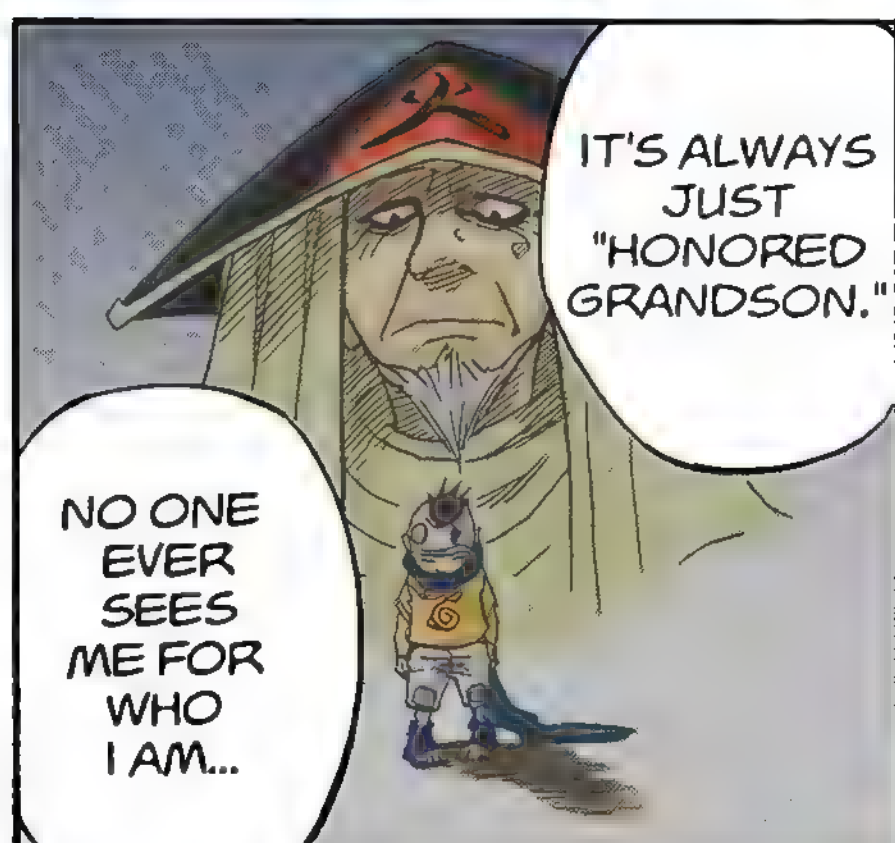
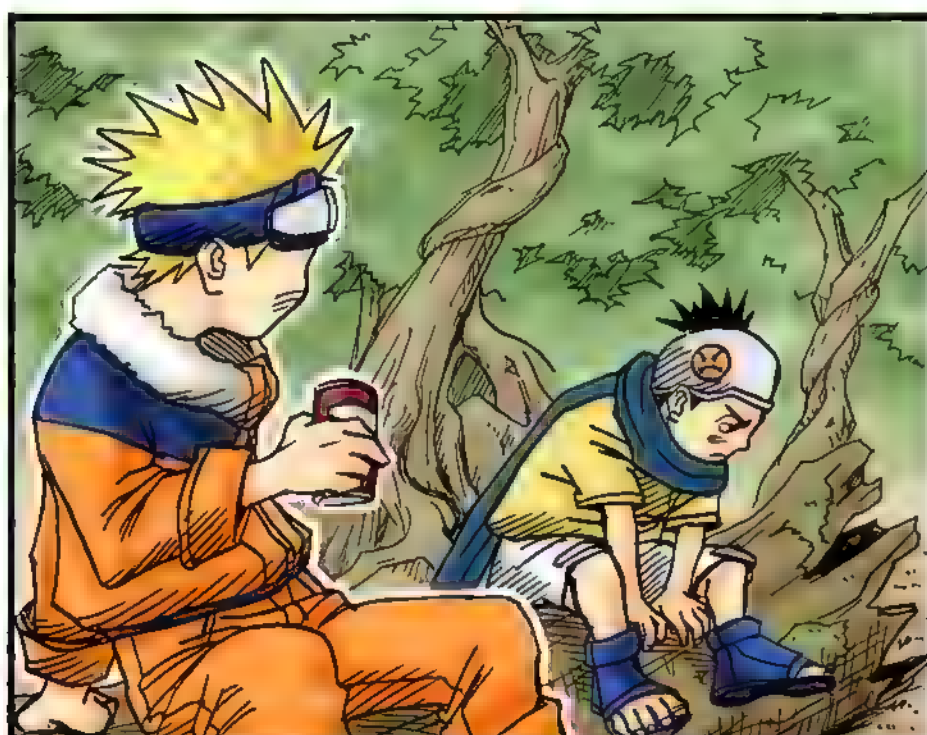


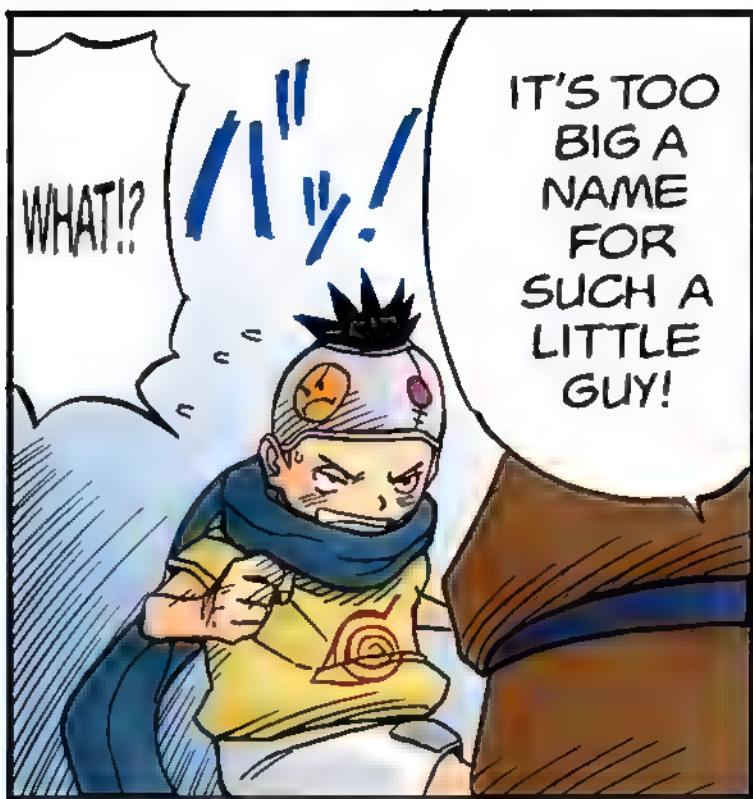




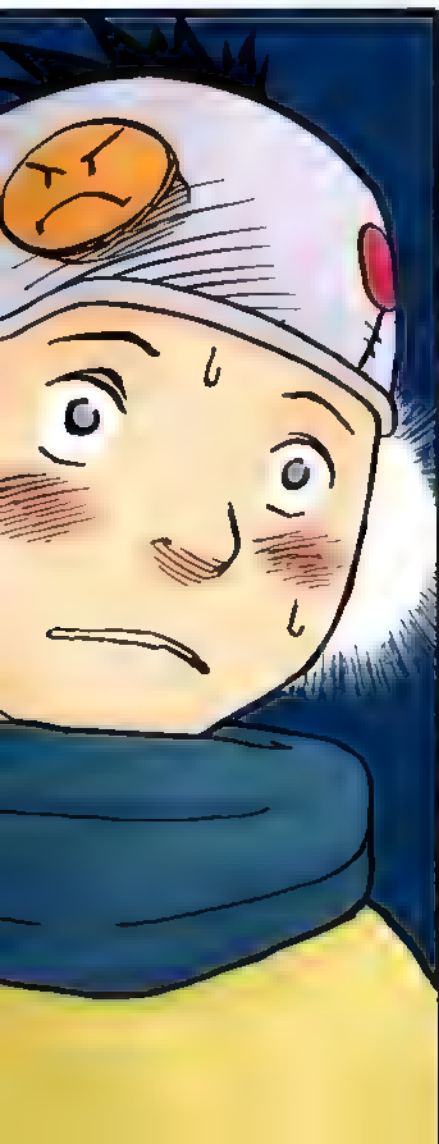
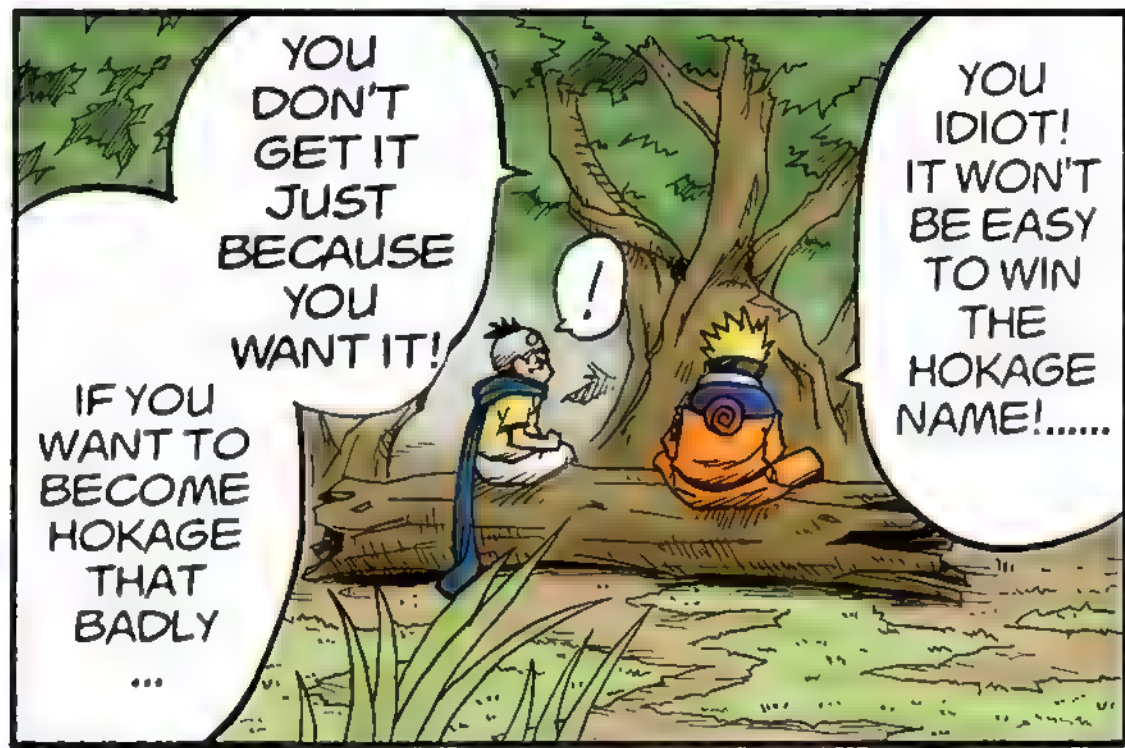
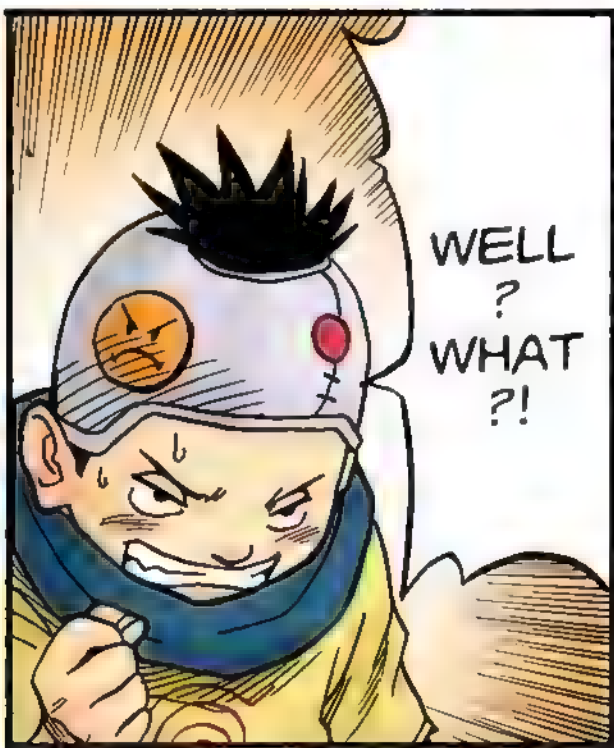


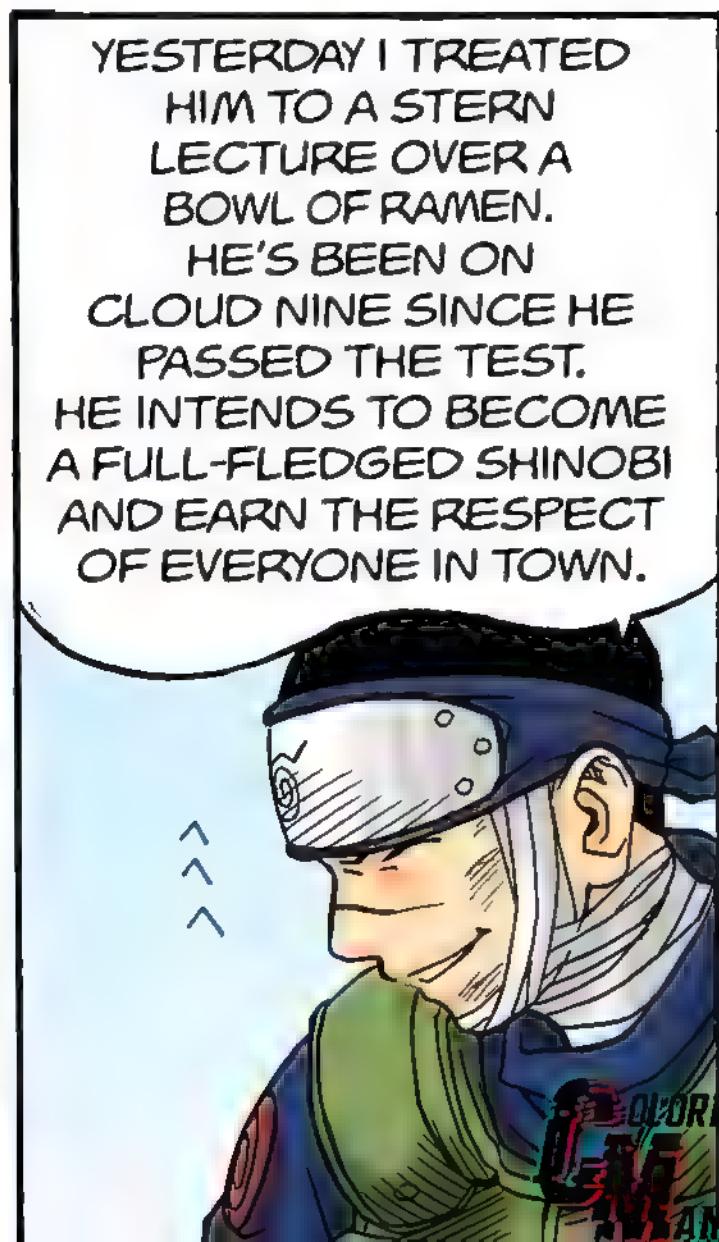
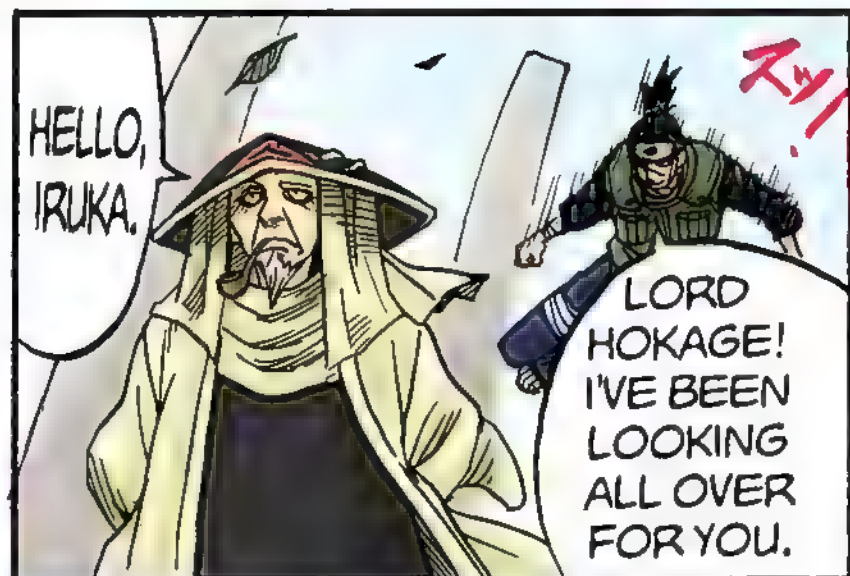
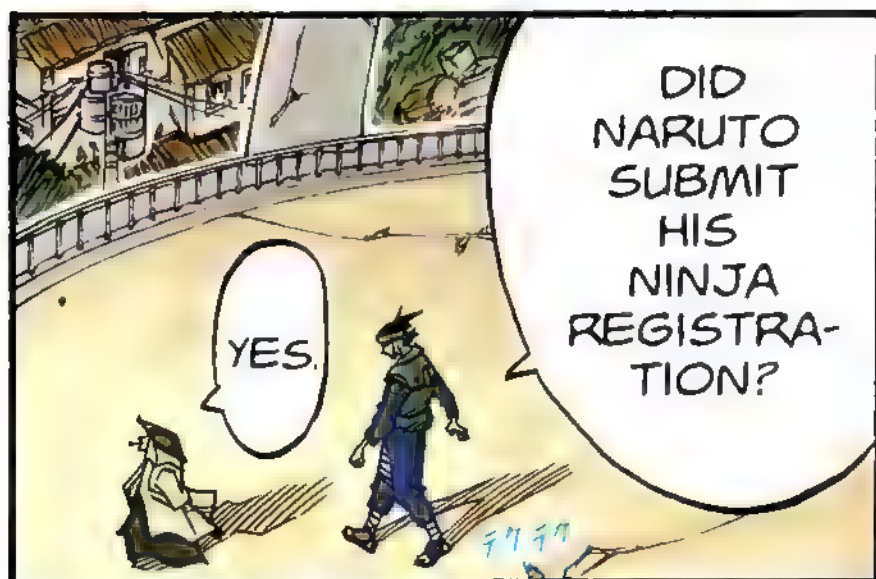
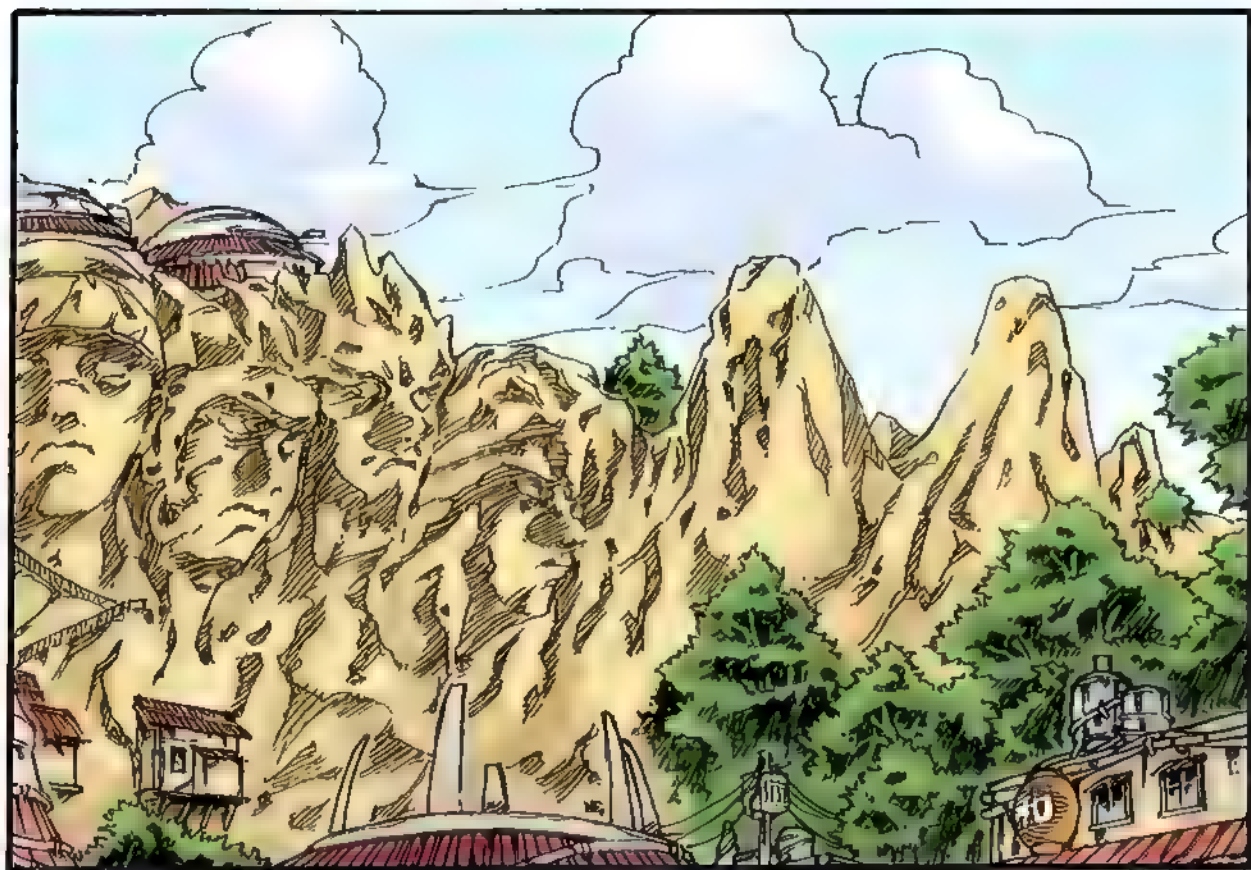


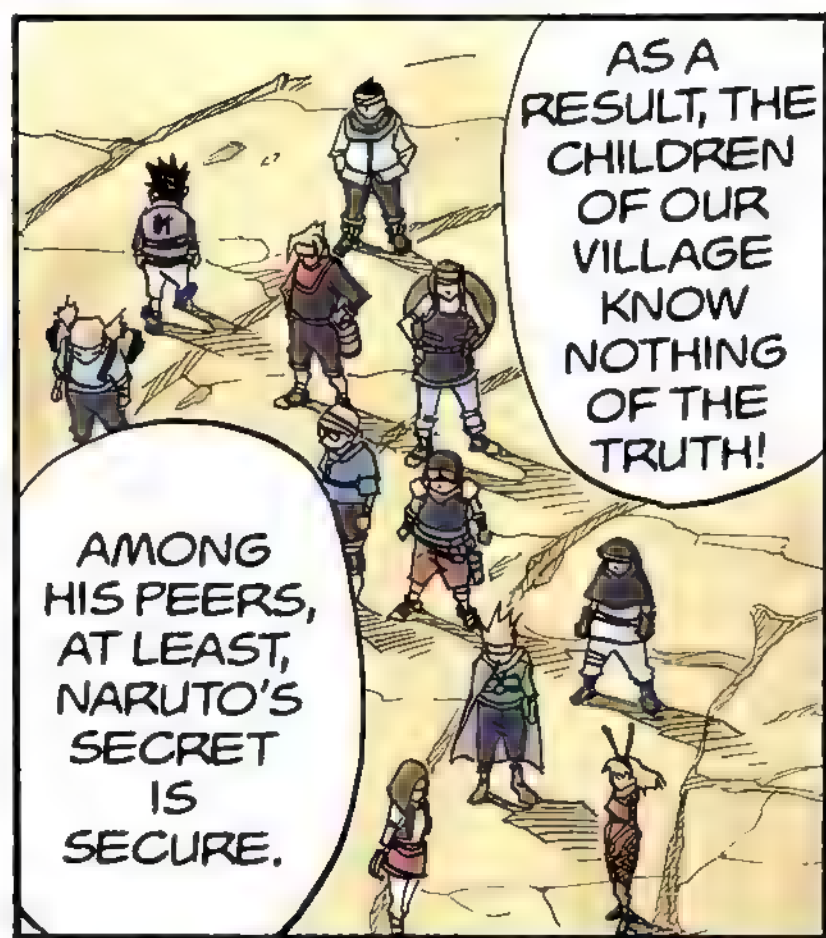
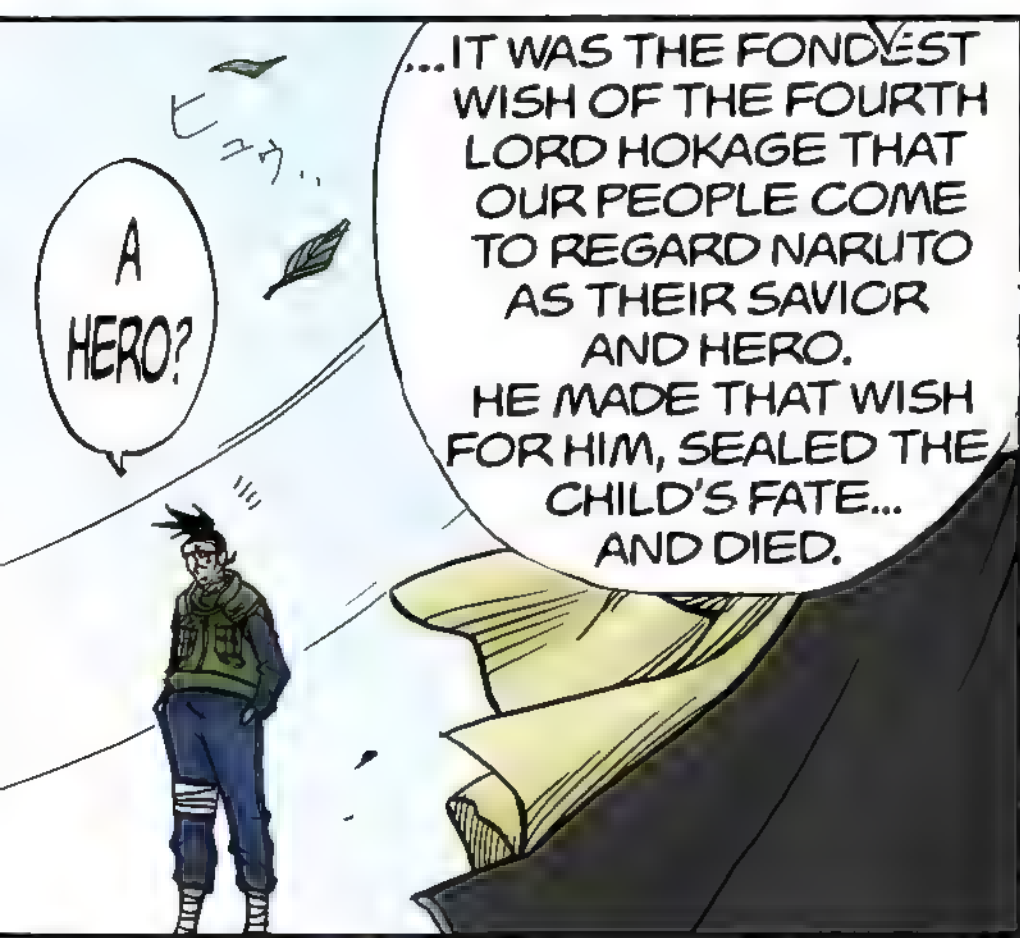
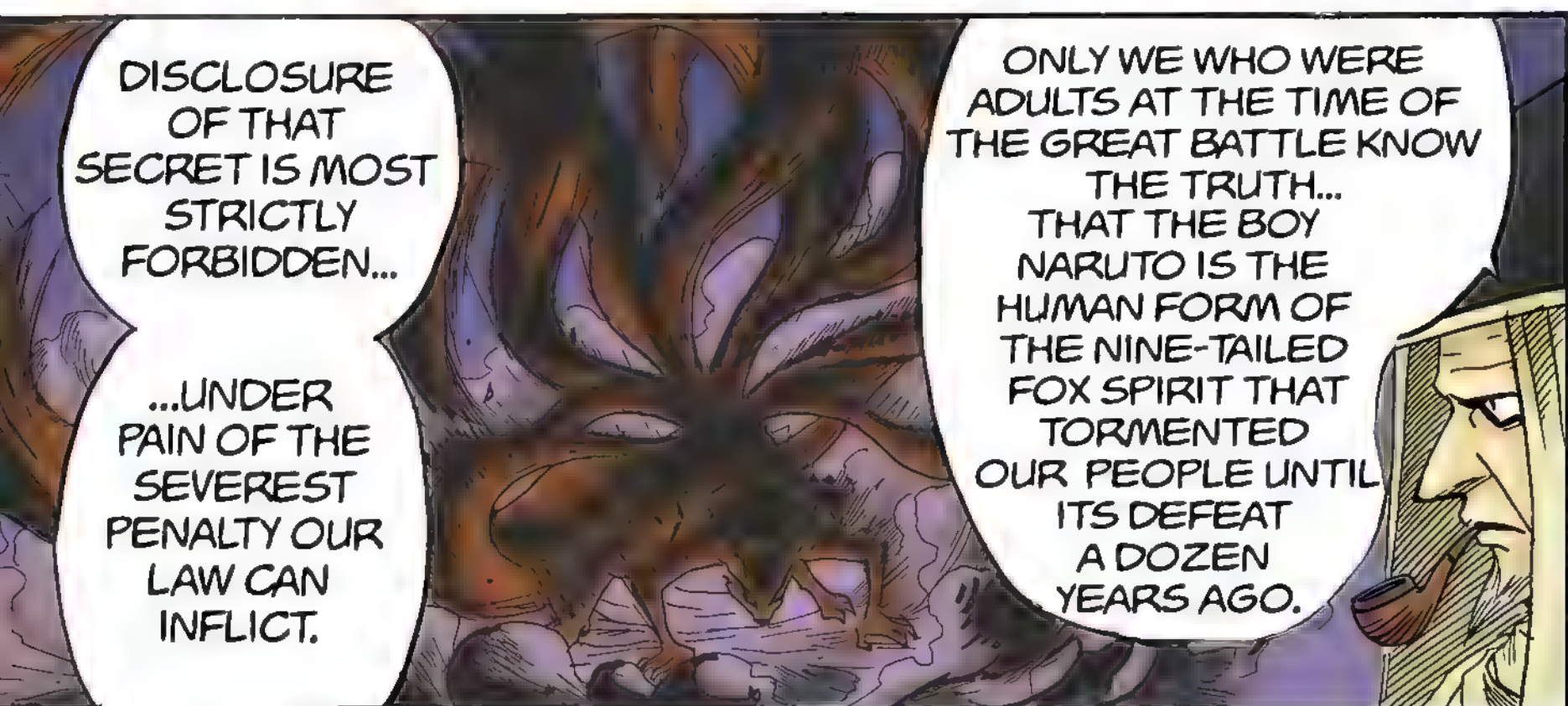
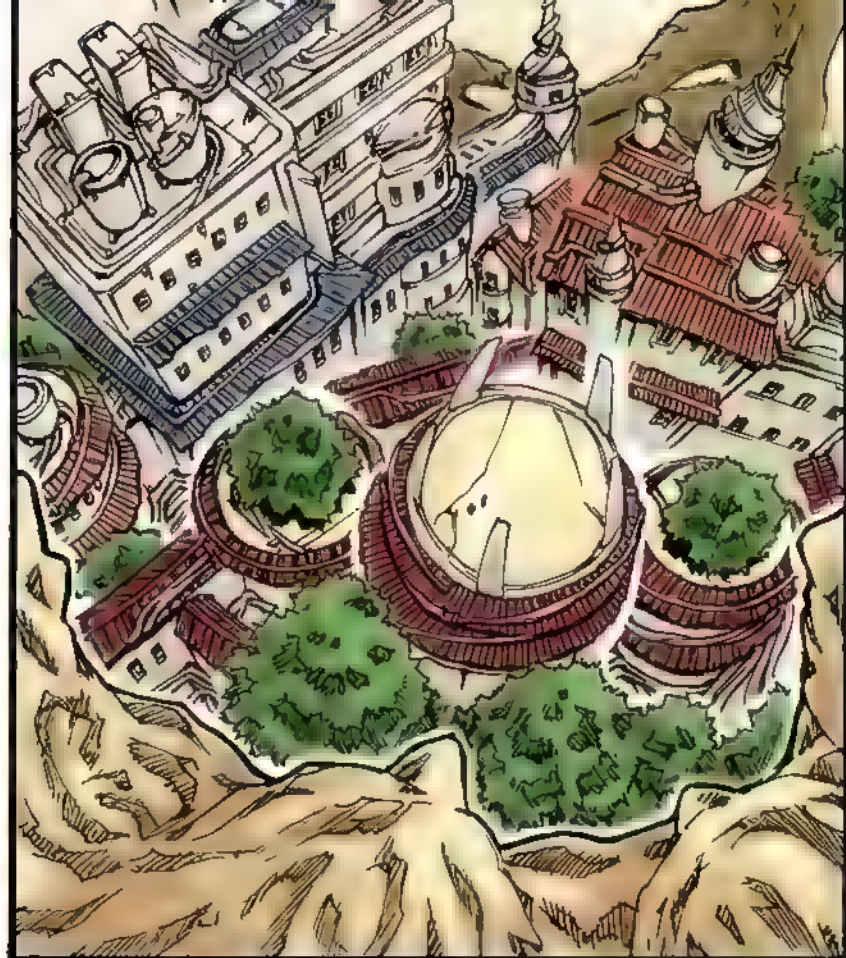


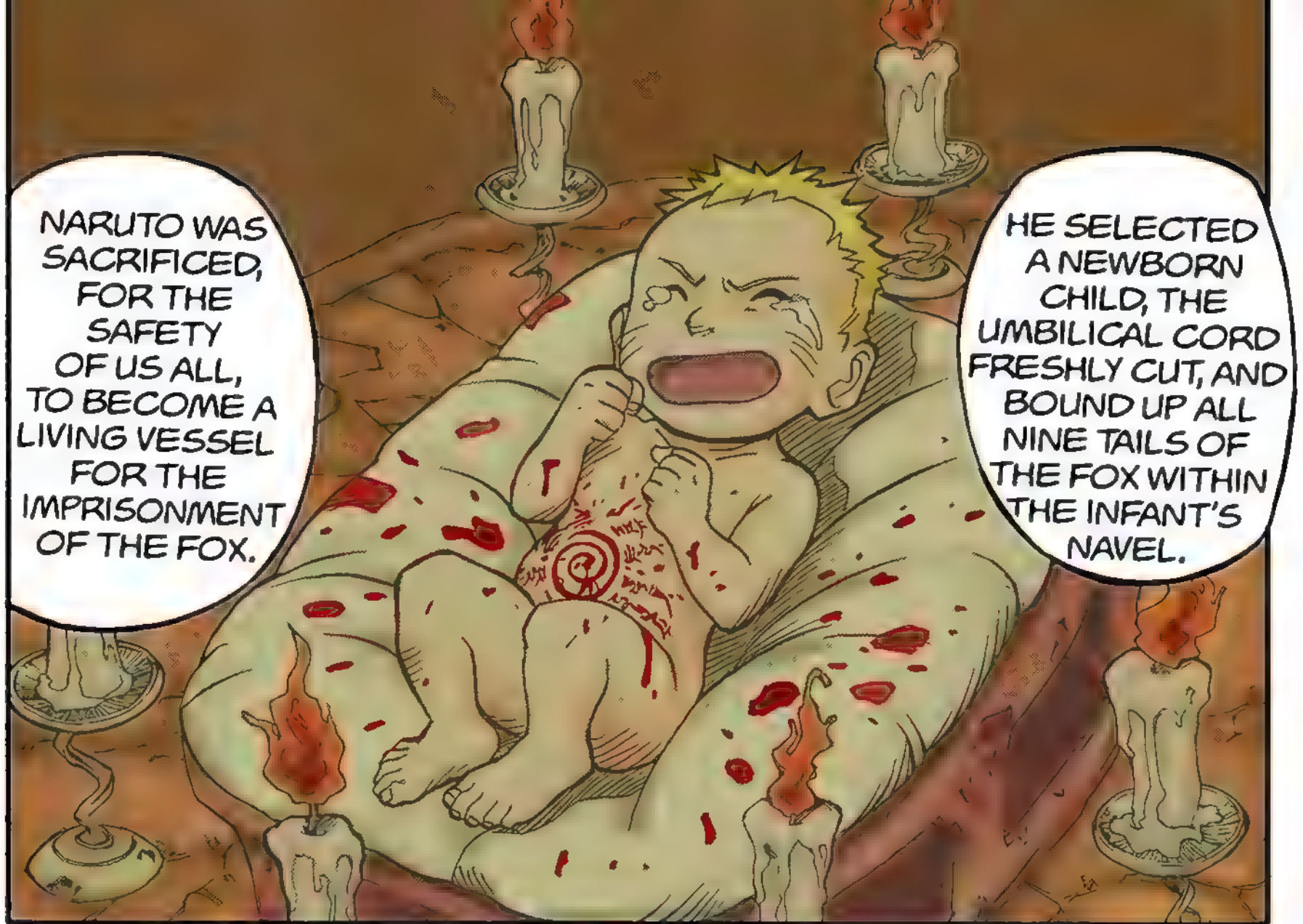


IT'S TOO BIG A NAME FOR SUCH A LITTLE GUY!



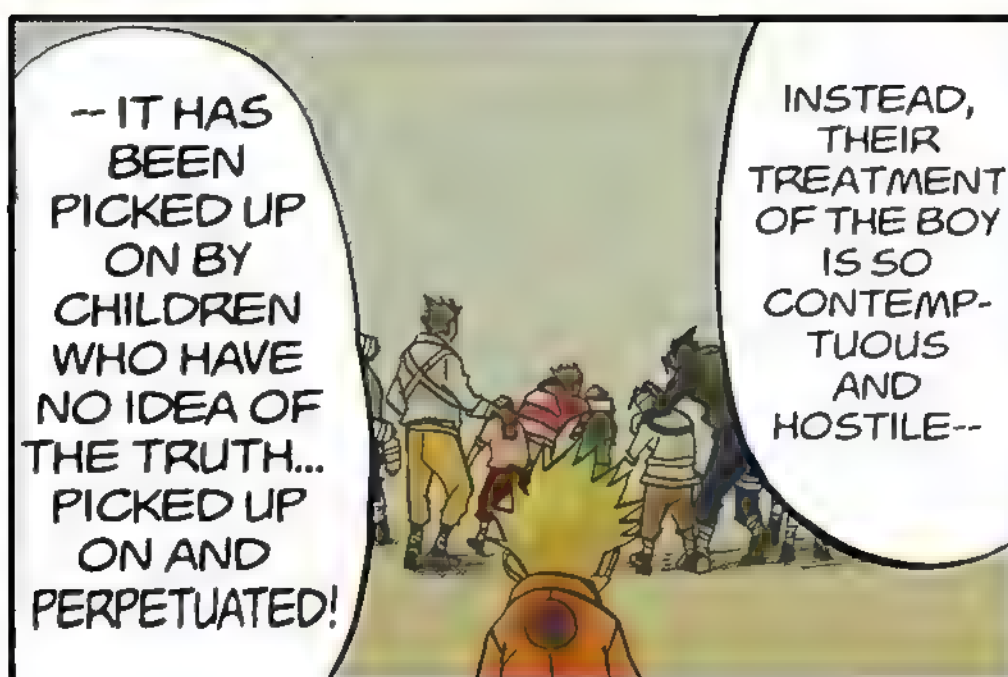






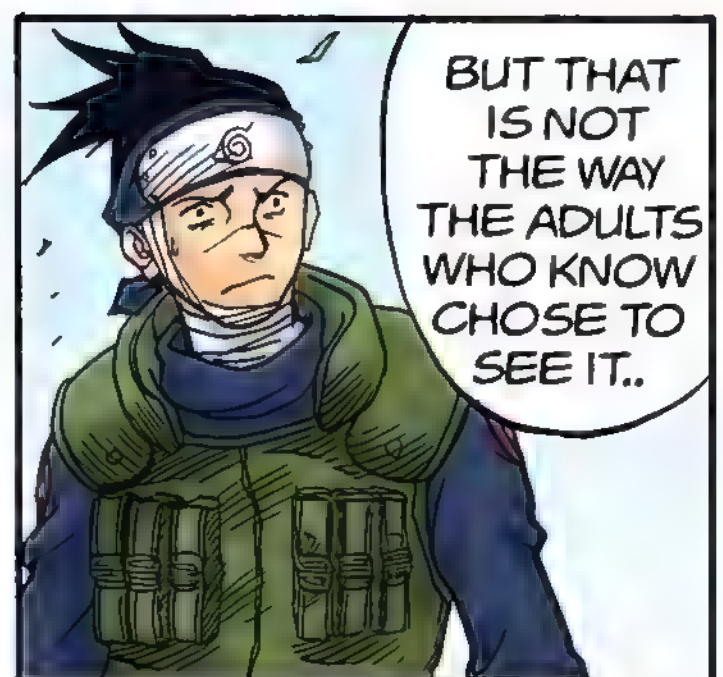
NARUTO WAS
SACRIFICED,
FOR THE
SAFETY
OF US ALL,
TO BECOME A
LIVING VESSEL
FOR THE
IMPRISONMENT
OF THE FOX.

HE SELECTED
A NEWBORN
CHILD, THE
UMBILICAL CORD
FRESHLY CUT, AND
BOUND UP ALL
NINE TAILS OF
THE FOX WITHIN
THE INFANT'S
NAVEL.



-- IT HAS
BEEN
PICKED UP
ON BY
CHILDREN
WHO HAVE
NO IDEA OF
THE TRUTH...
PICKED UP
ON AND
PERPETUATED!

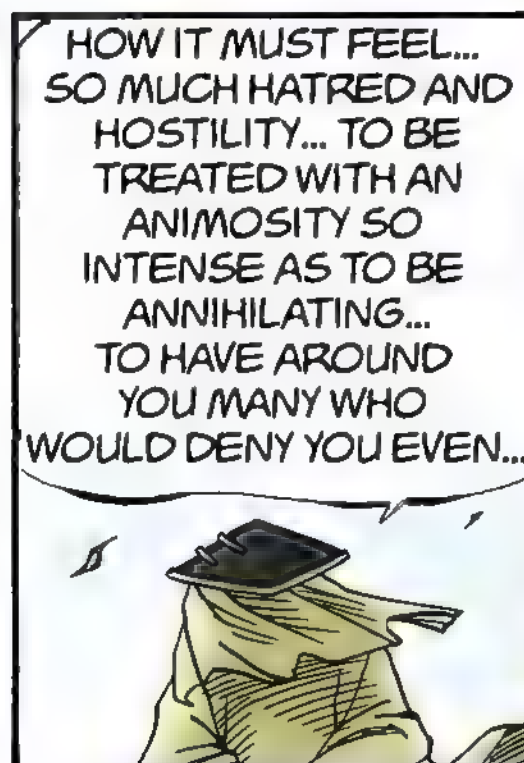
INSTEAD,
THEIR
TREATMENT
OF THE BOY
IS SO
CONTEMP-
TUOUS
AND
HOSTILE--



BUT THAT
IS NOT
THE WAY
THE ADULTS
WHO KNOW
CHOSE TO
SEE IT..



...THE
RIGHT
TO
EXIST..

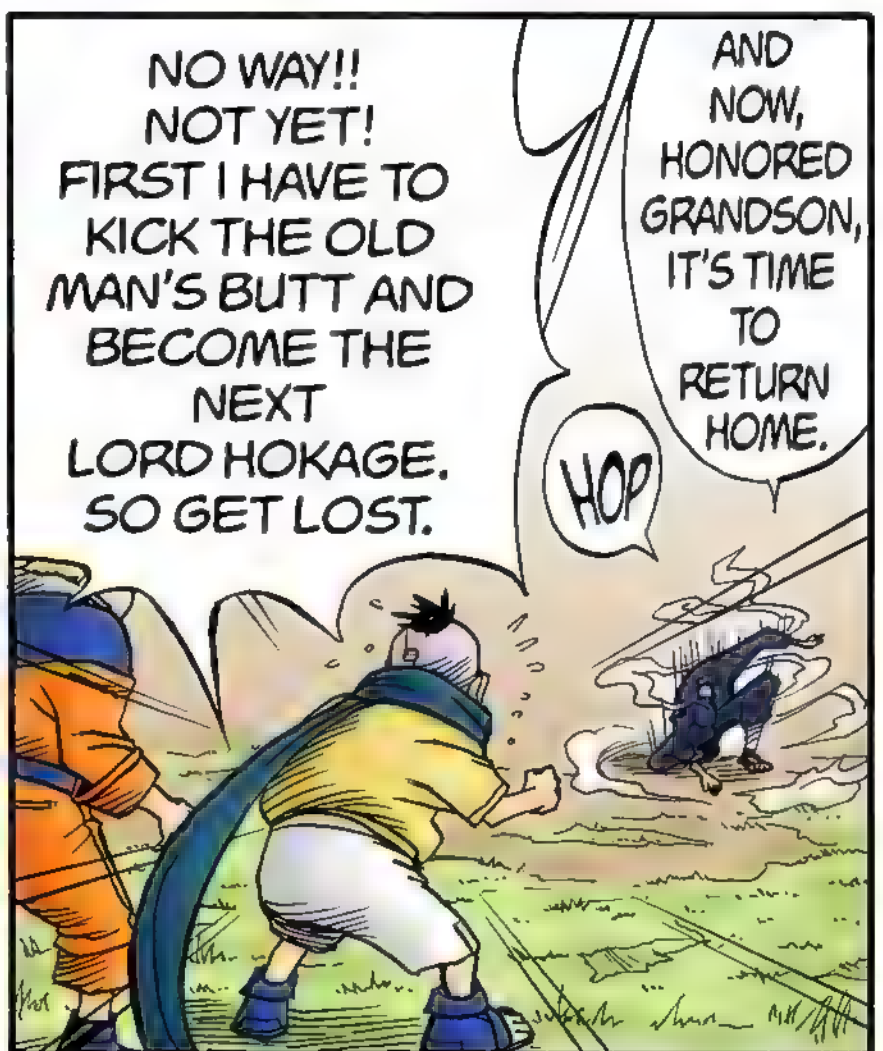
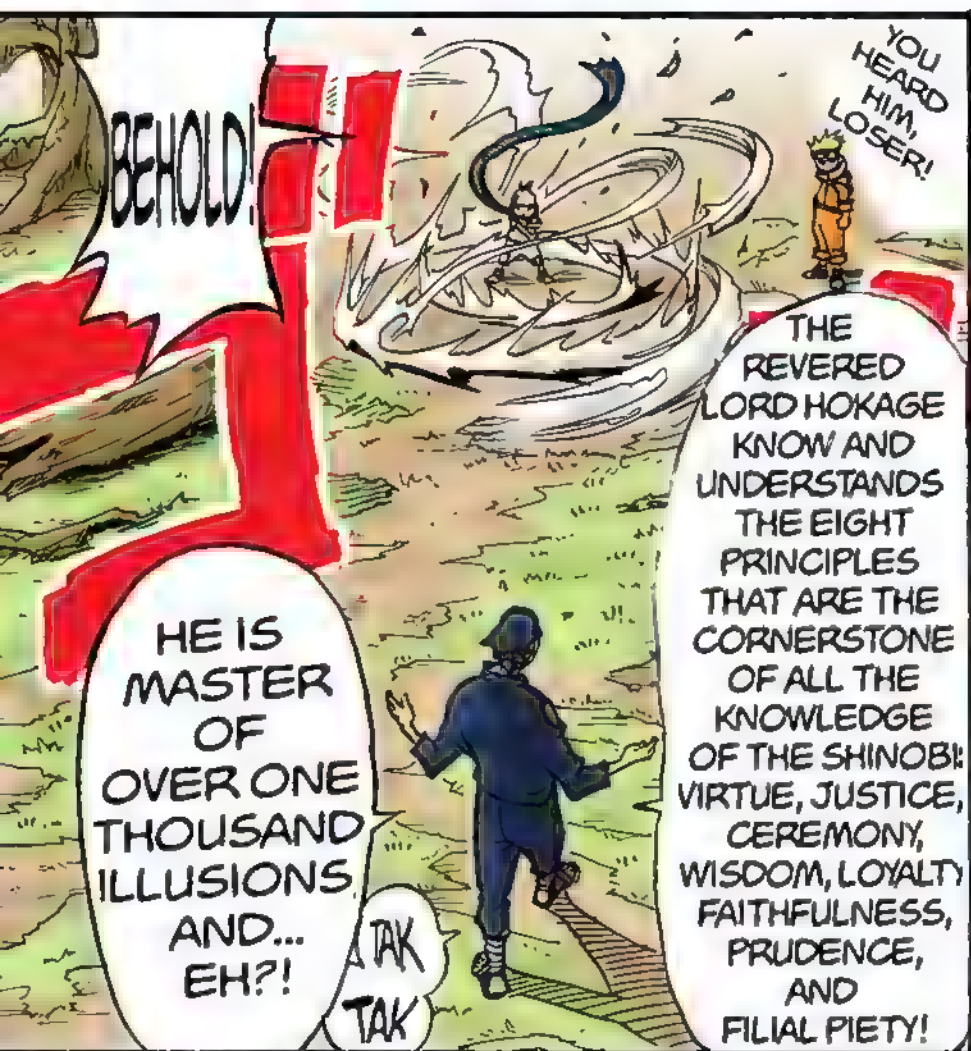
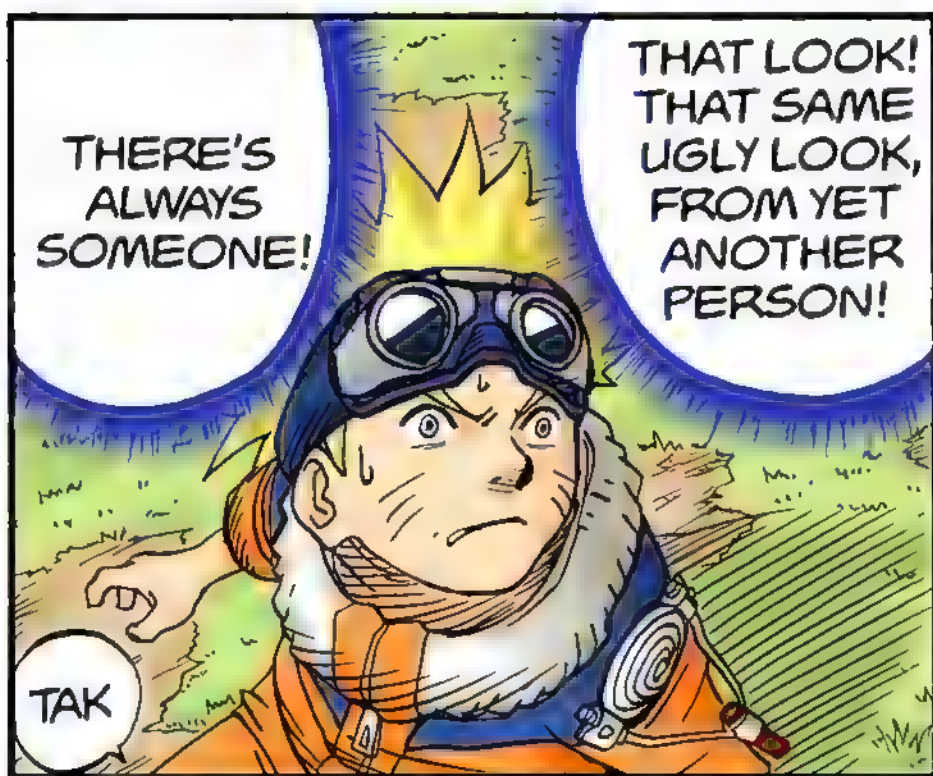


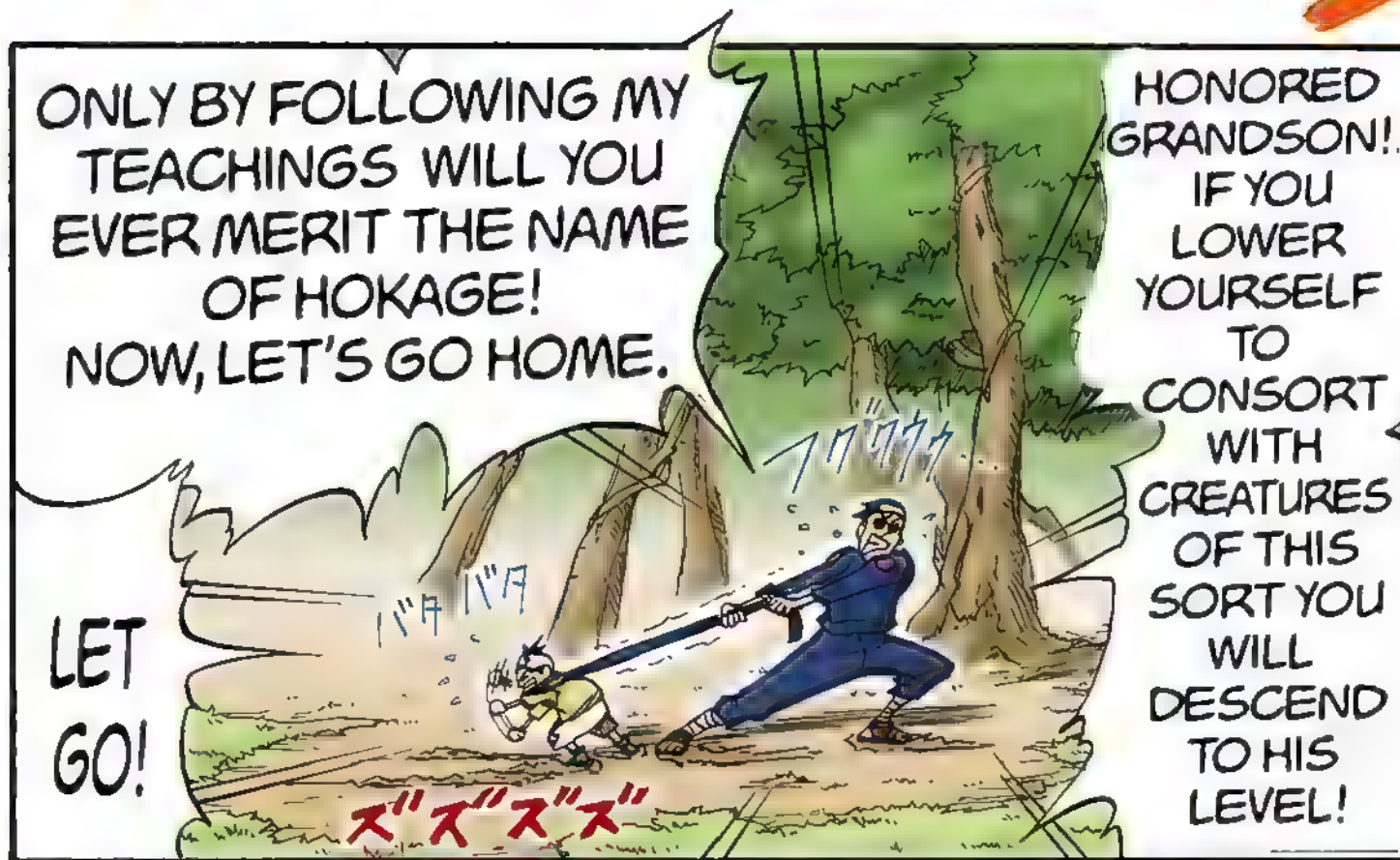
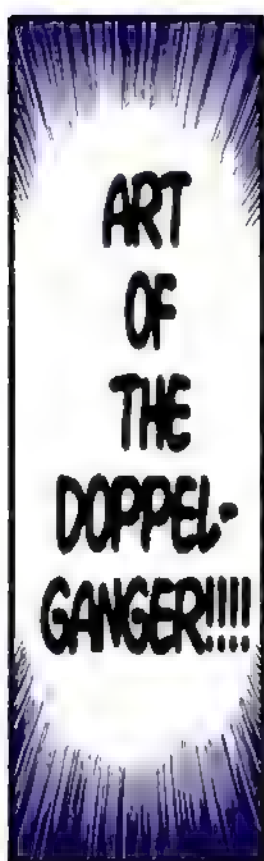
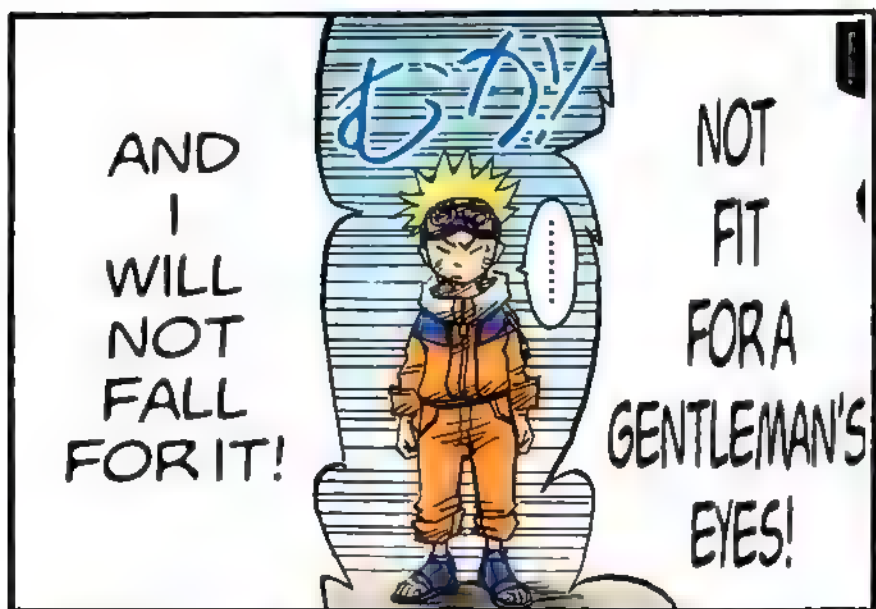
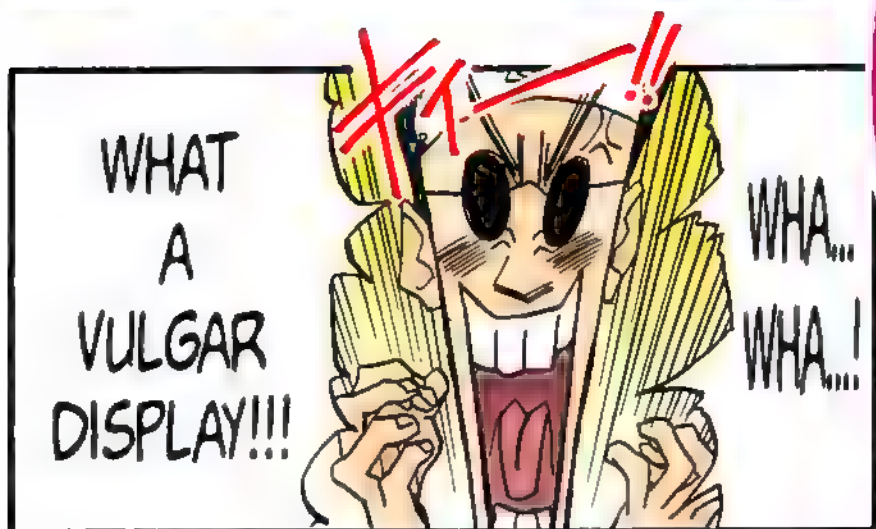
HOW IT MUST FEEL...
SO MUCH HATRED AND
HOSTILITY... TO BE
TREATED WITH AN
ANIMOSITY SO
INTENSE AS TO BE
ANNIHILATING...
TO HAVE AROUND
YOU MANY WHO
WOULD DENY YOU EVEN...

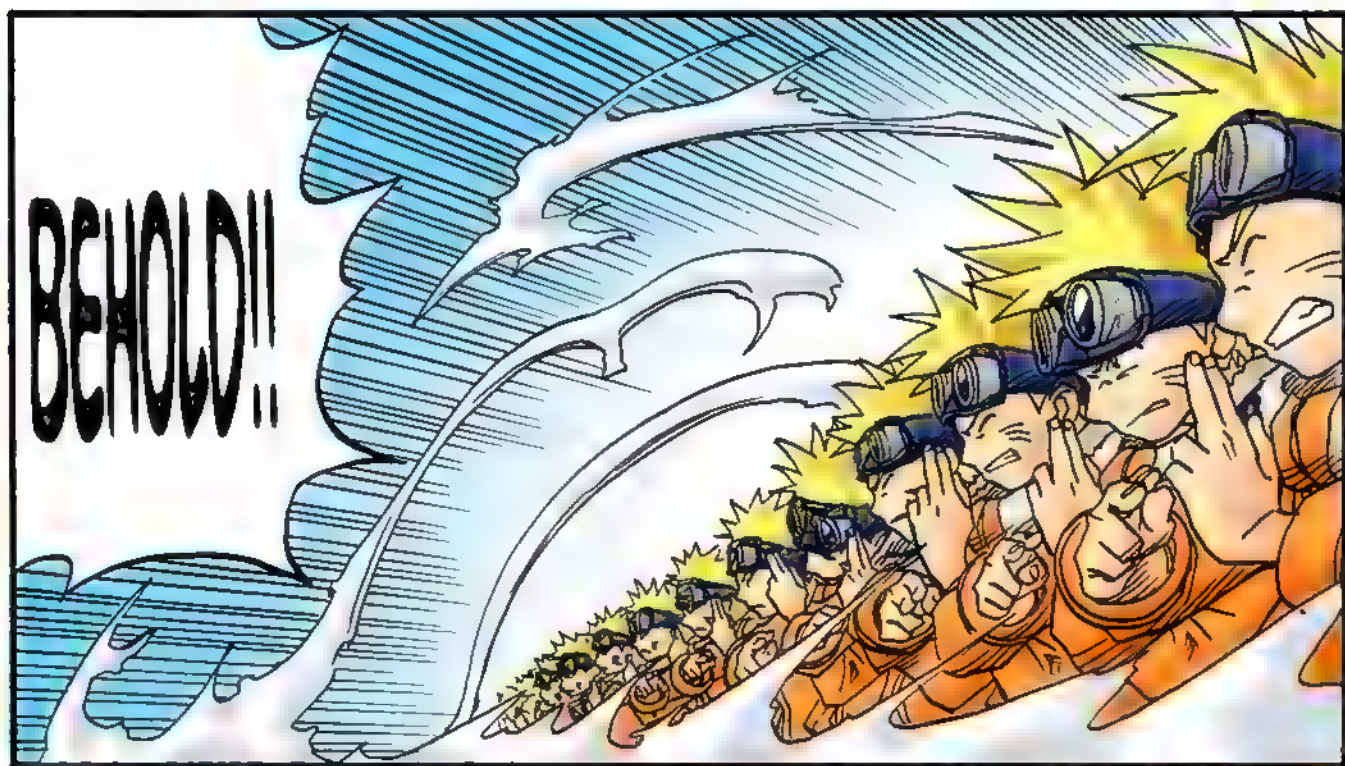
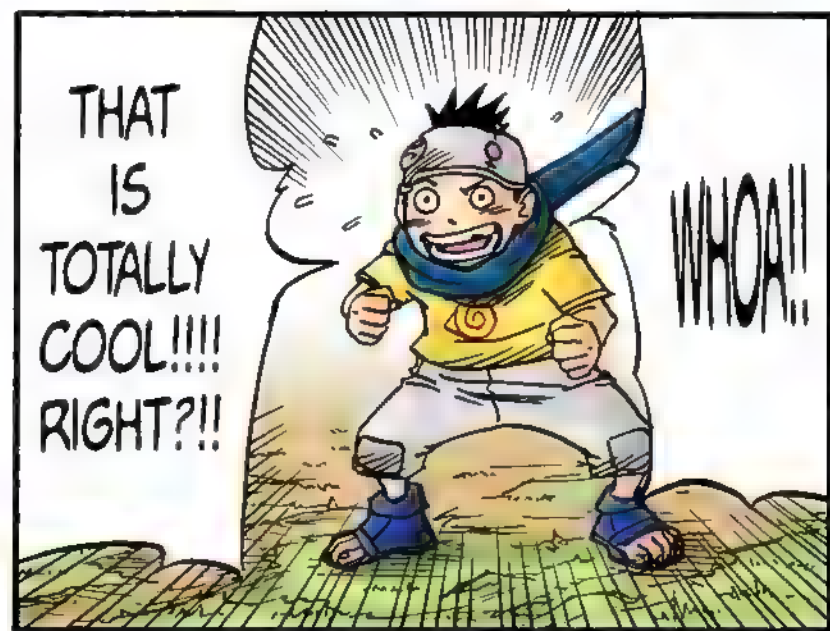


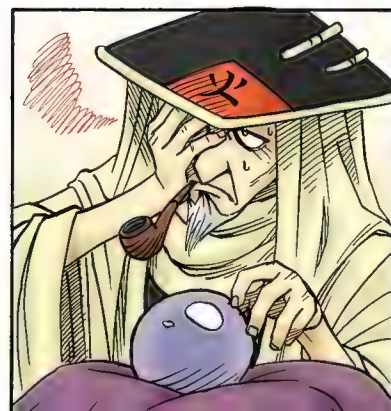
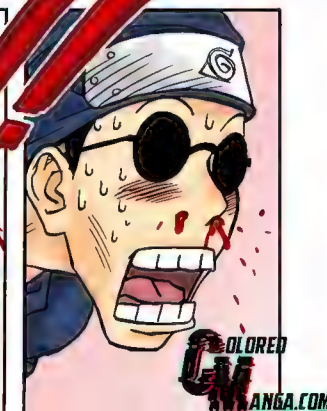
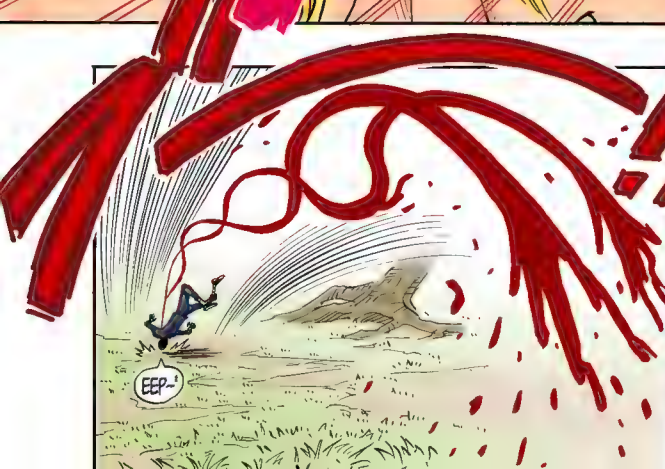
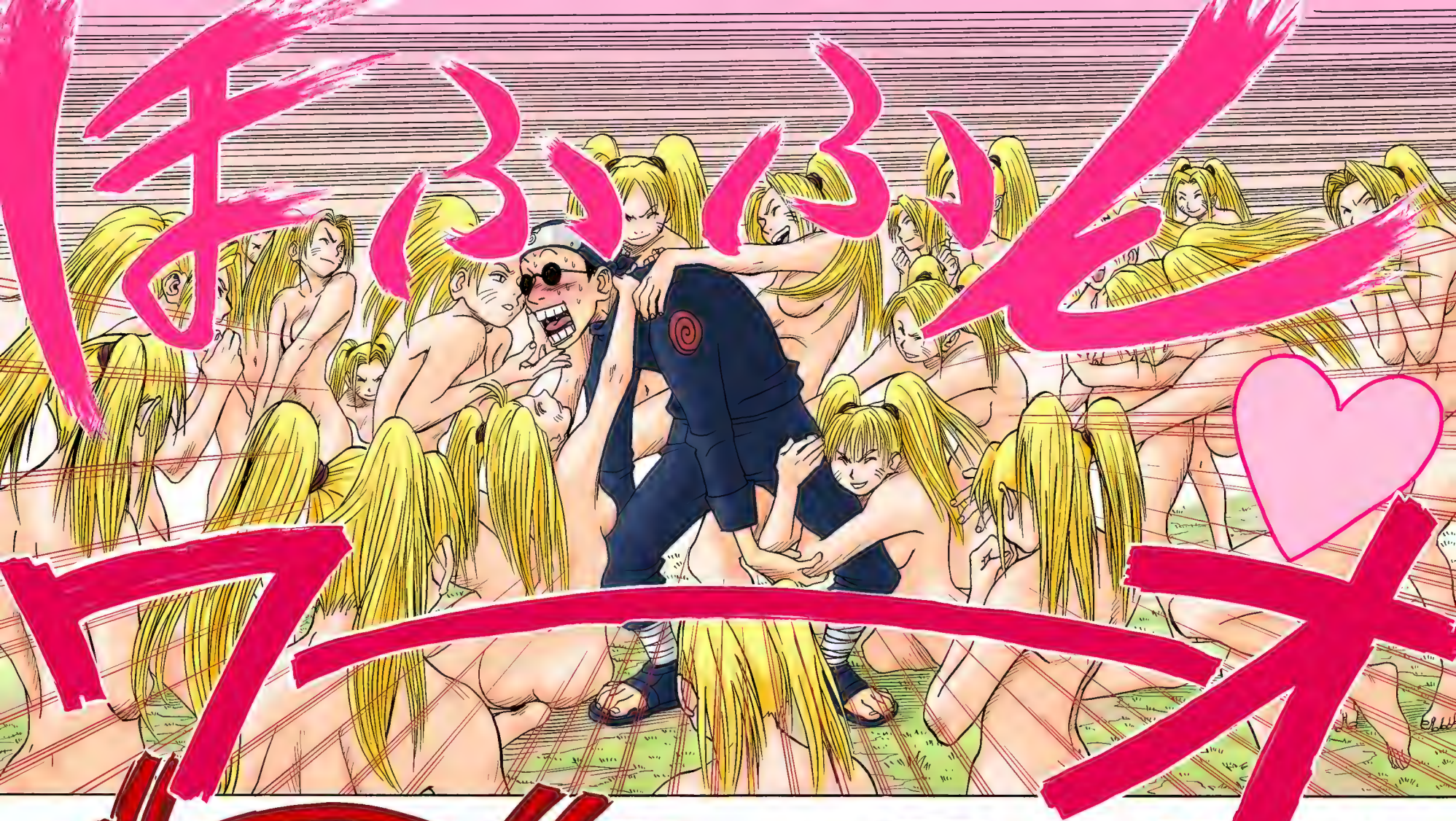
IRUKA...
CAN
YOU
IMAGINE...?

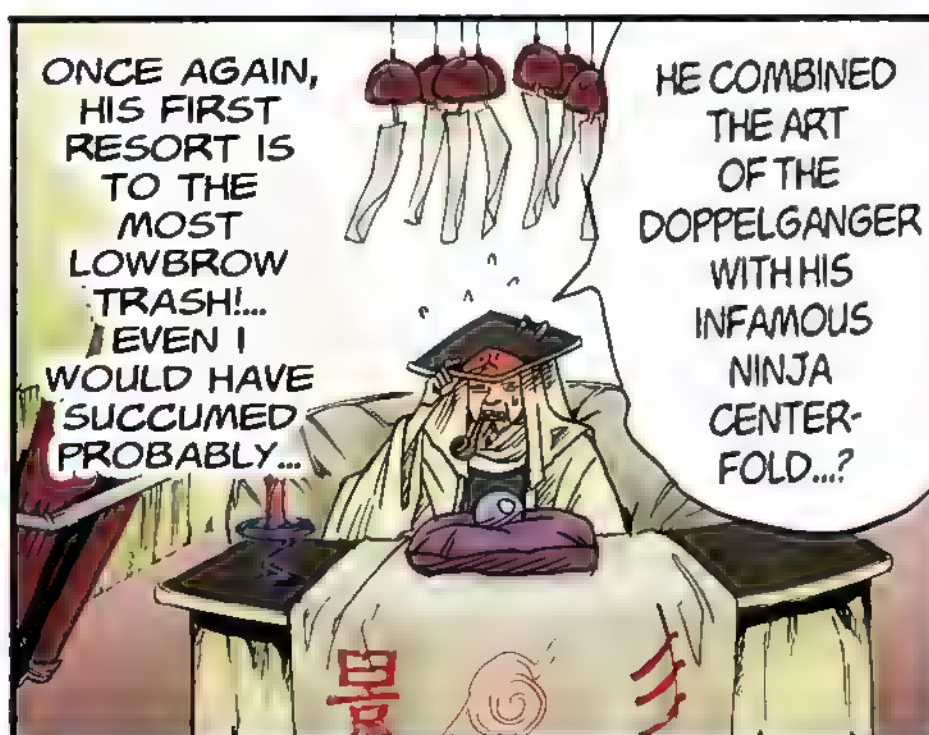
IMAGINE
WHAT?

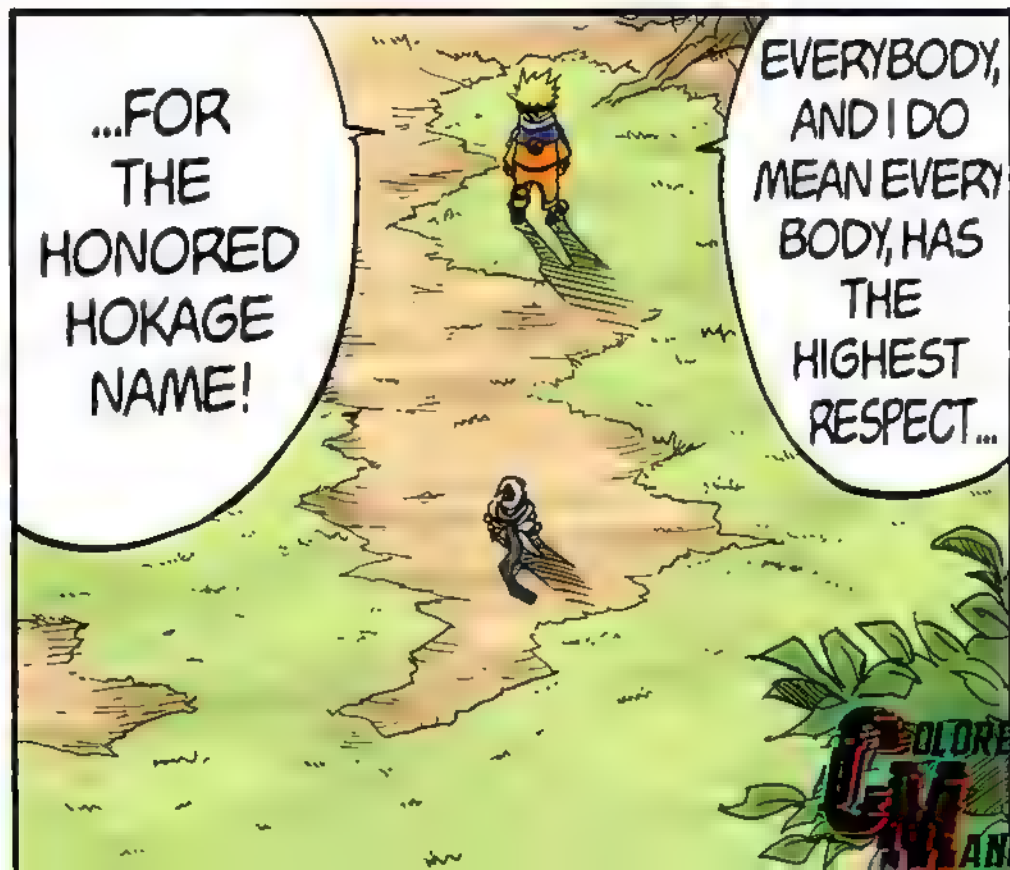
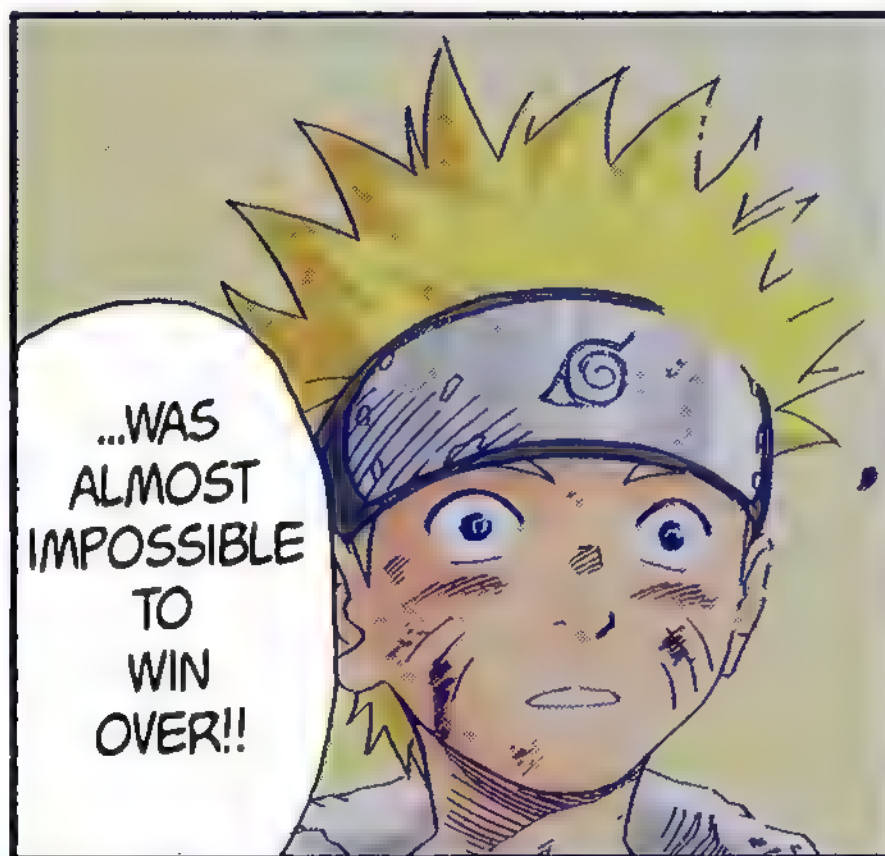
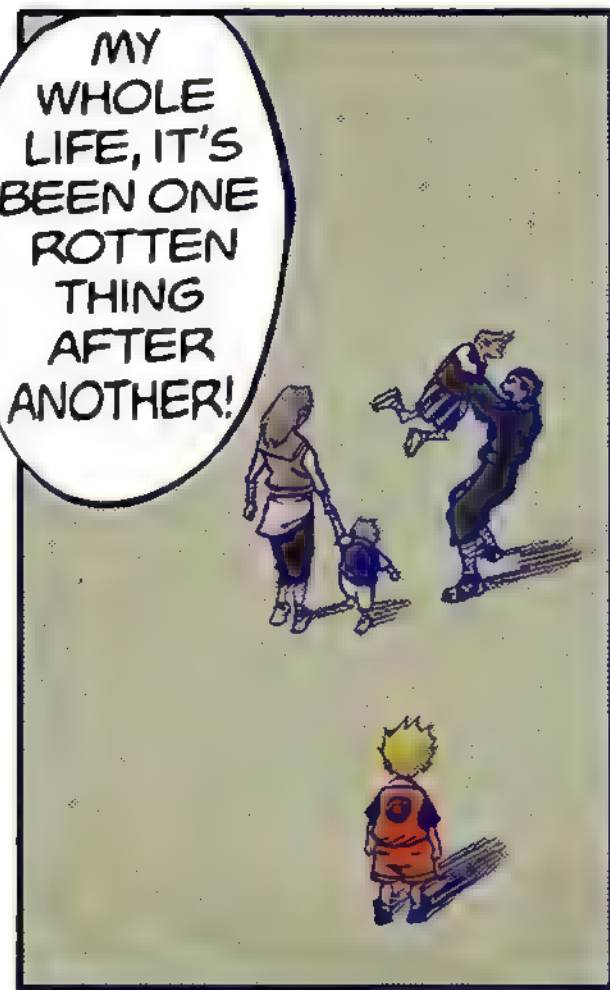
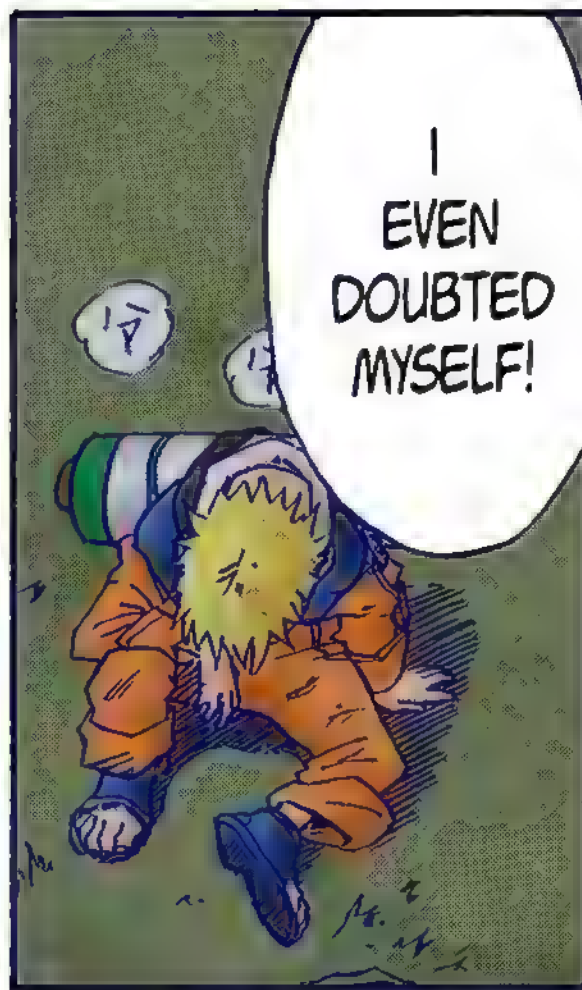


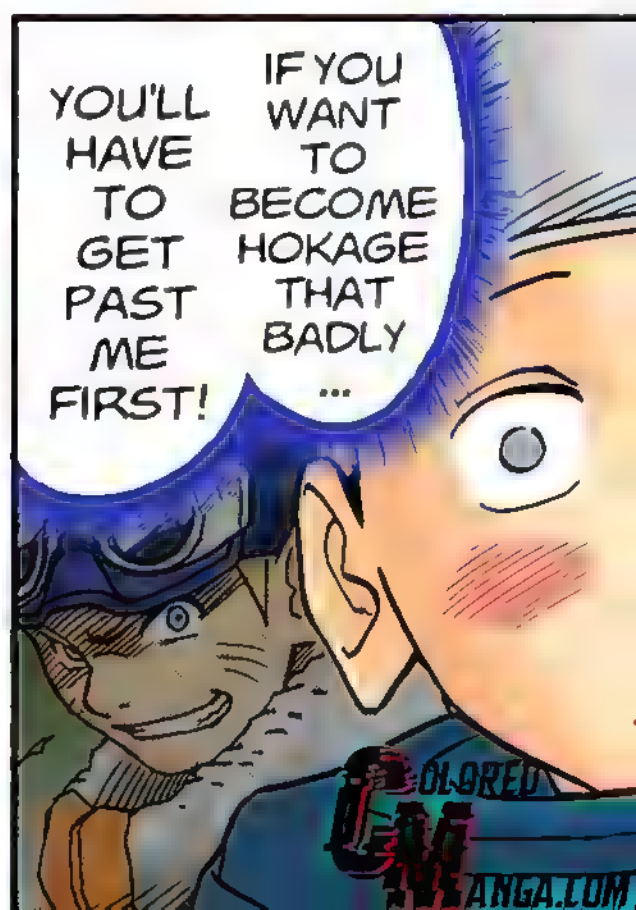
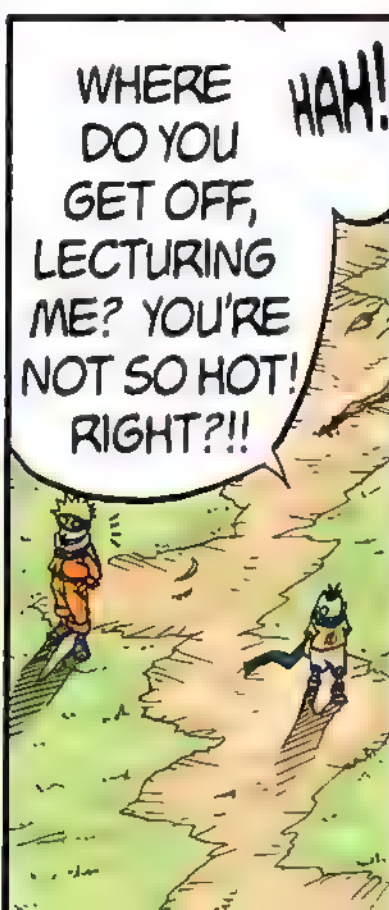
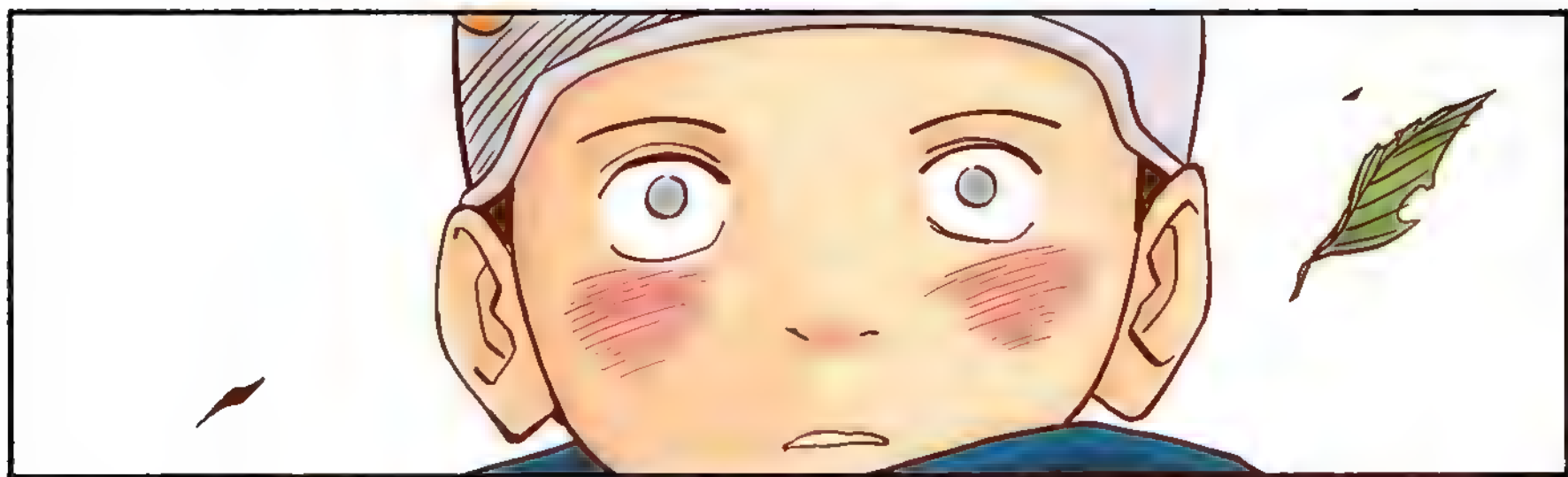
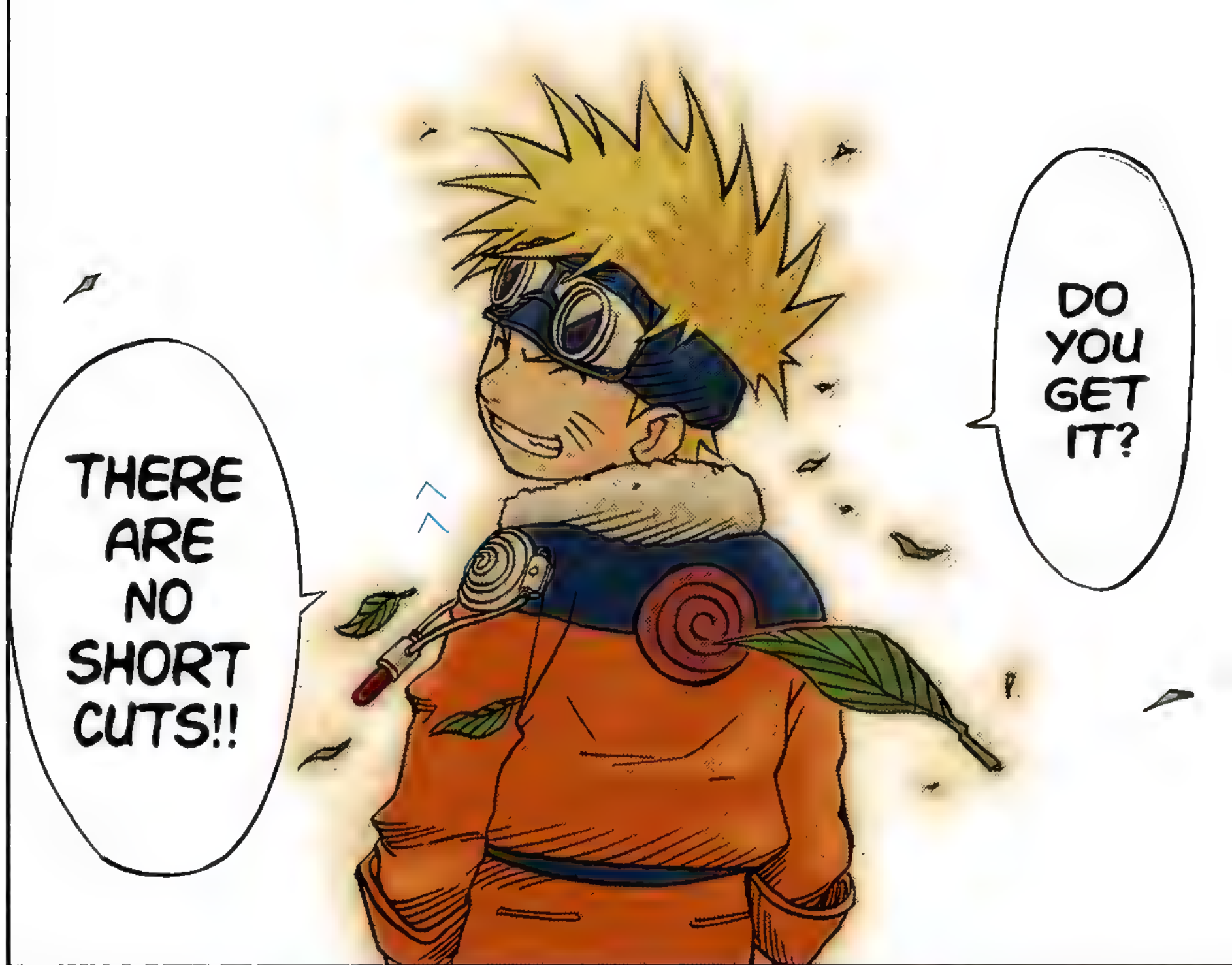


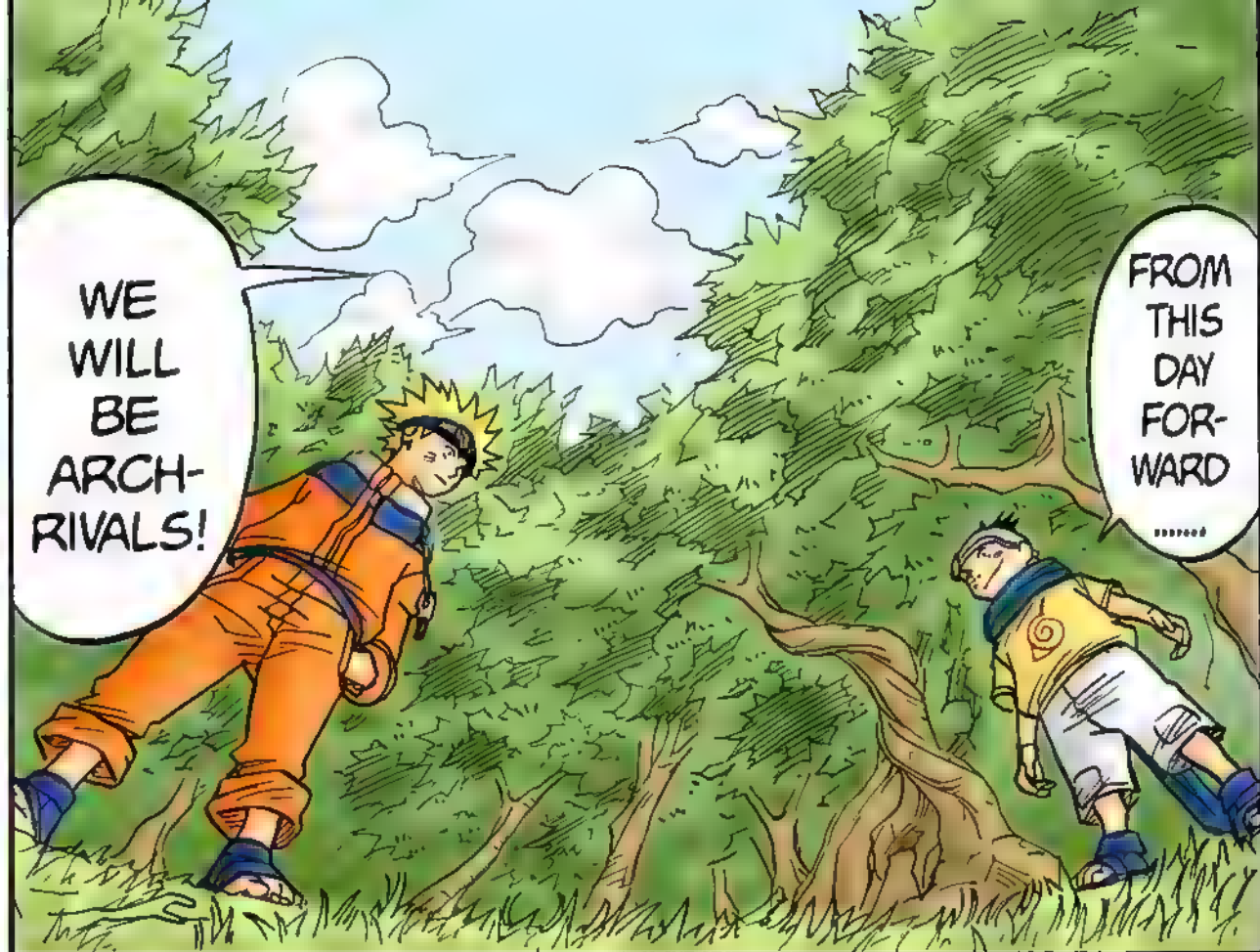
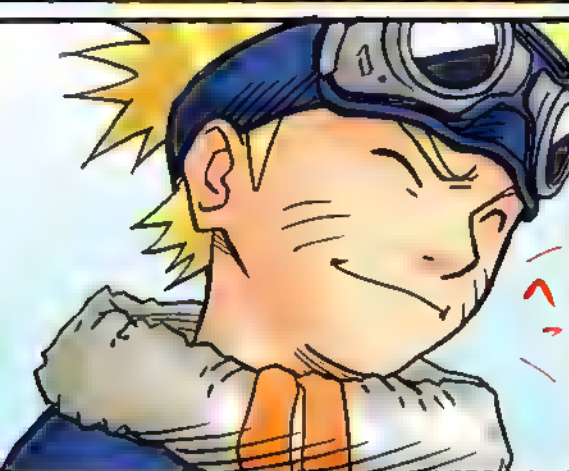
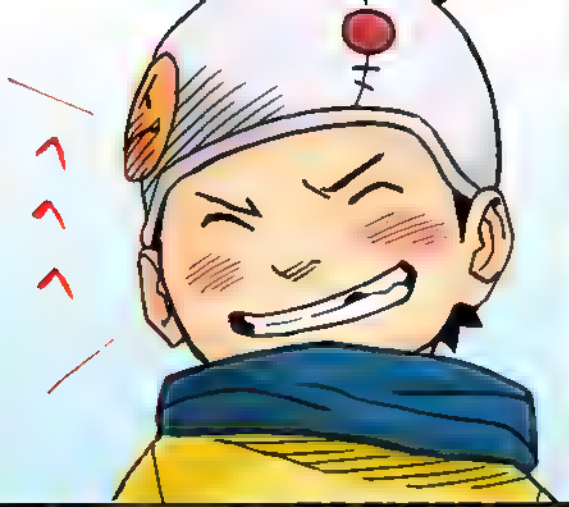










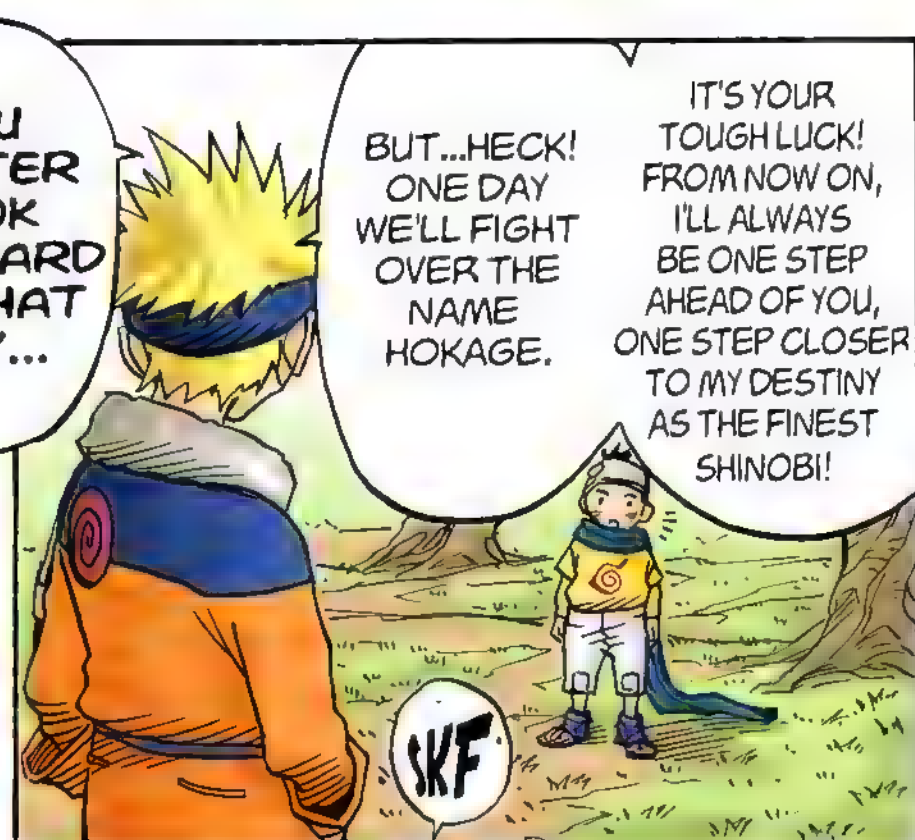


WE
WILL
BE
ARCH-
RIVALS!

FROM
THIS
DAY
FOR-
WARD



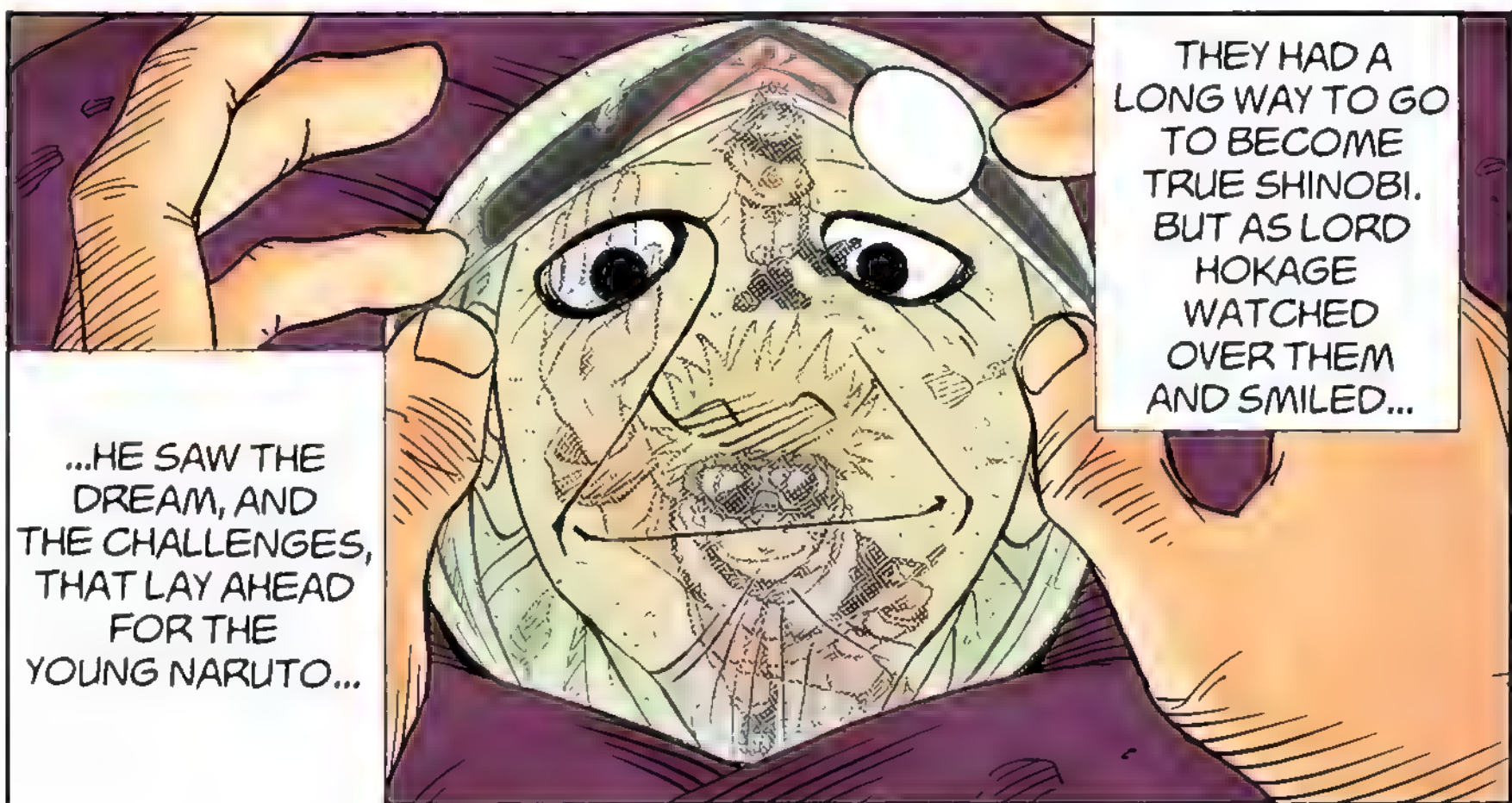
YOU
BETTER
LOOK
FORWARD
TO THAT
DAY...



BUT...HECK!
ONE DAY
WE'LL FIGHT
OVER THE
NAME
HOKAGE.

IT'S YOUR
TOUGH LUCK!
FROM NOW ON,
I'LL ALWAYS
BE ONE STEP
AHEAD OF YOU,
ONE STEP CLOSER
TO MY DESTINY
AS THE FINEST
SHINOBI!

SKF



...HE SAW THE
DREAM, AND
THE CHALLENGES,
THAT LAY AHEAD
FOR THE
YOUNG NARUTO...

THEY HAD A
LONG WAY TO GO
TO BECOME
TRUE SHINOBI.
BUT AS LORD
HOKAGE
WATCHED
OVER THEM
AND SMILED...

Konohagakure Basics:

SHINOBI STYLE



Makimono Pouch (Scroll Pouch)

The classic Konohagakure pouch, worn on both the right and left sides of the vest. Scrolls, medicine and ninja tools are extracted from the bottom of the pouches.



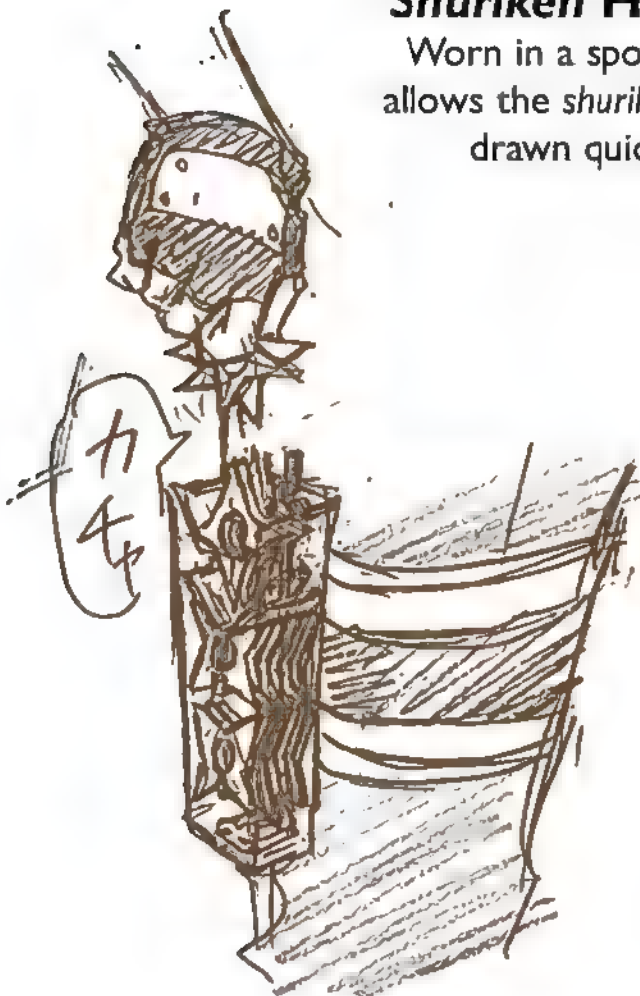
Hitai-ate (Forehead Band)

Can be worn either as a headband, or a cover for the entire head.



Shuriken Holster

Worn in a spot which allows the shuriken to be drawn quickly.

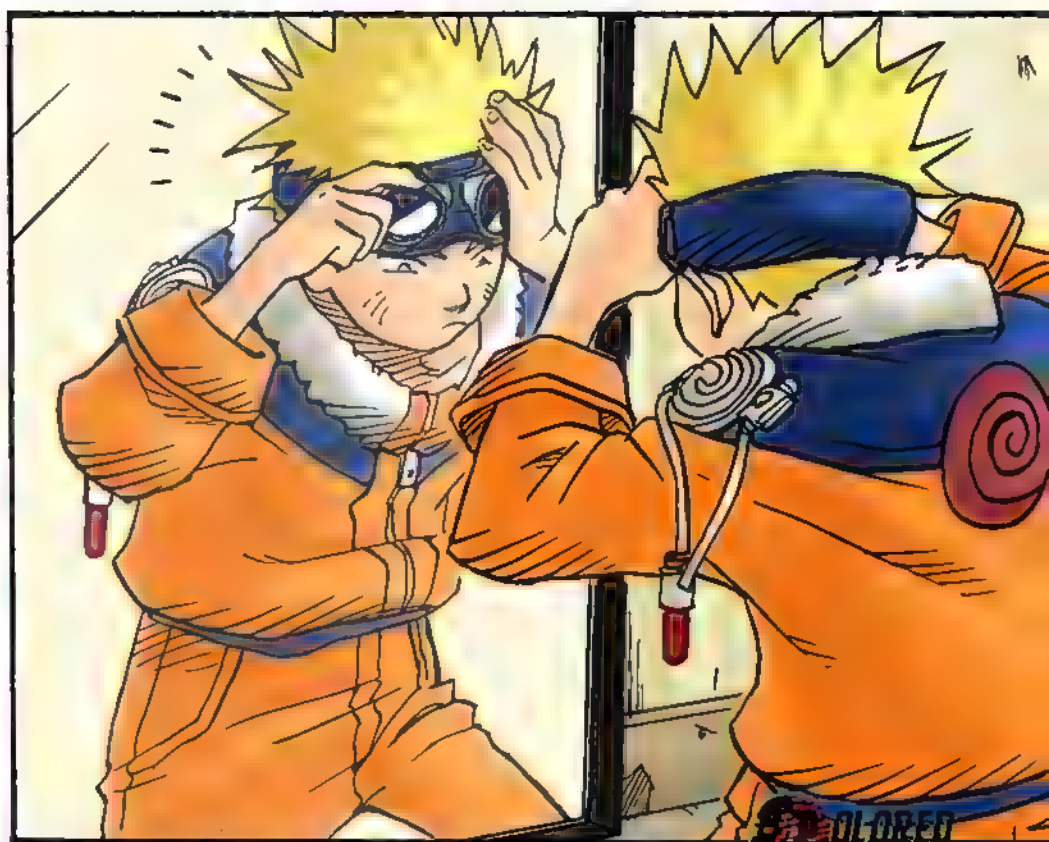
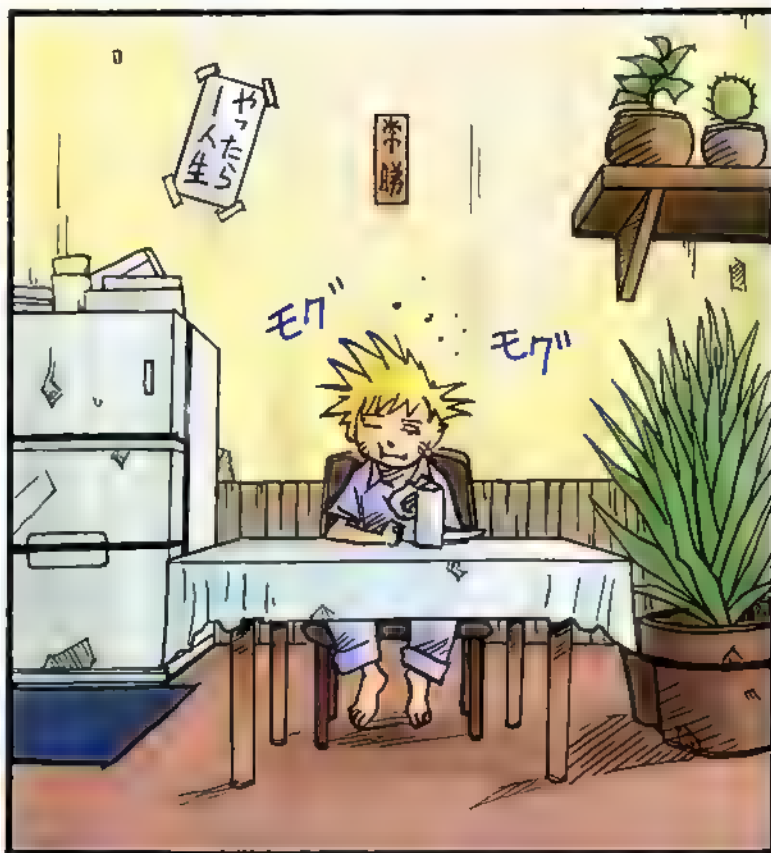
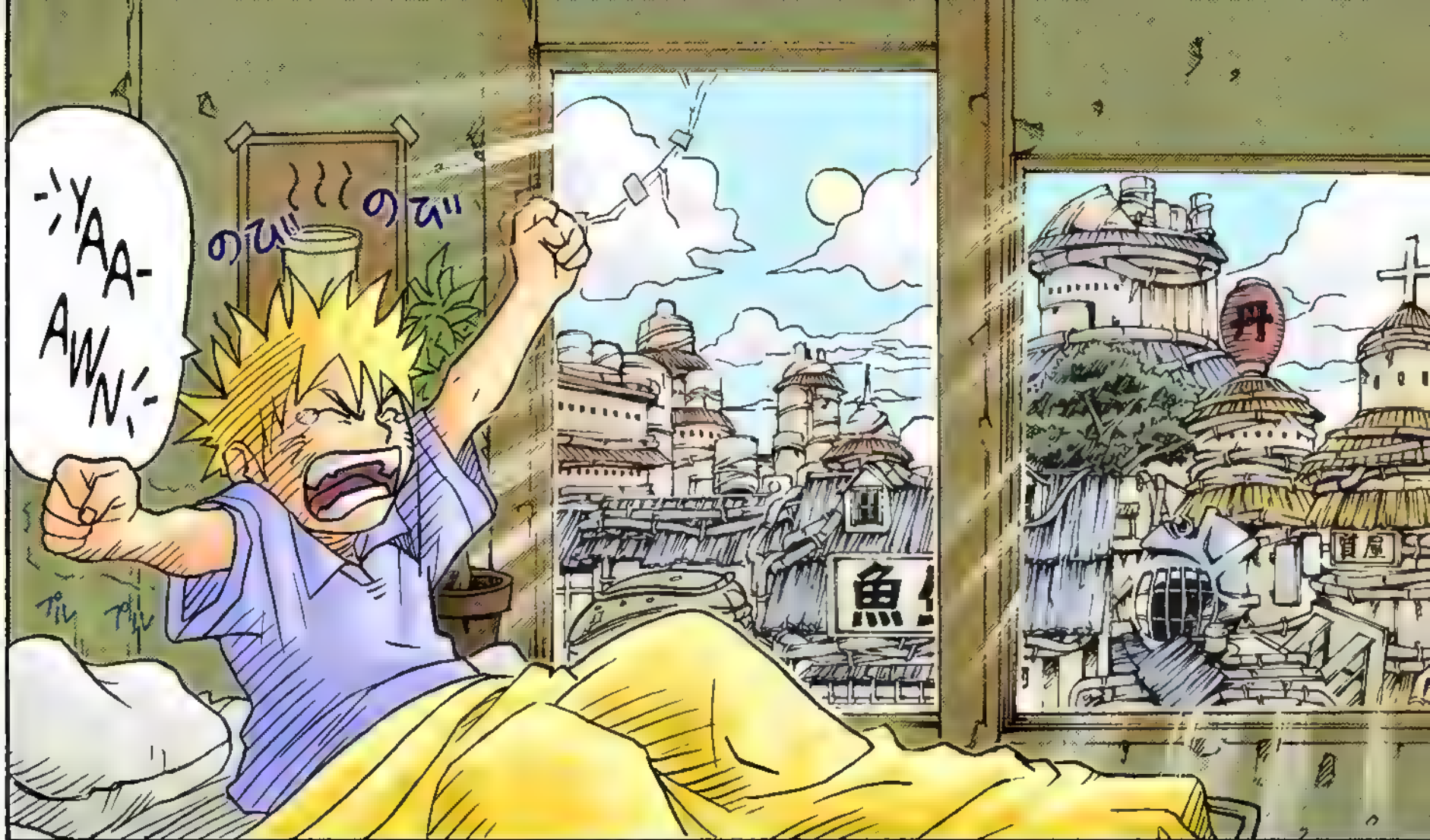


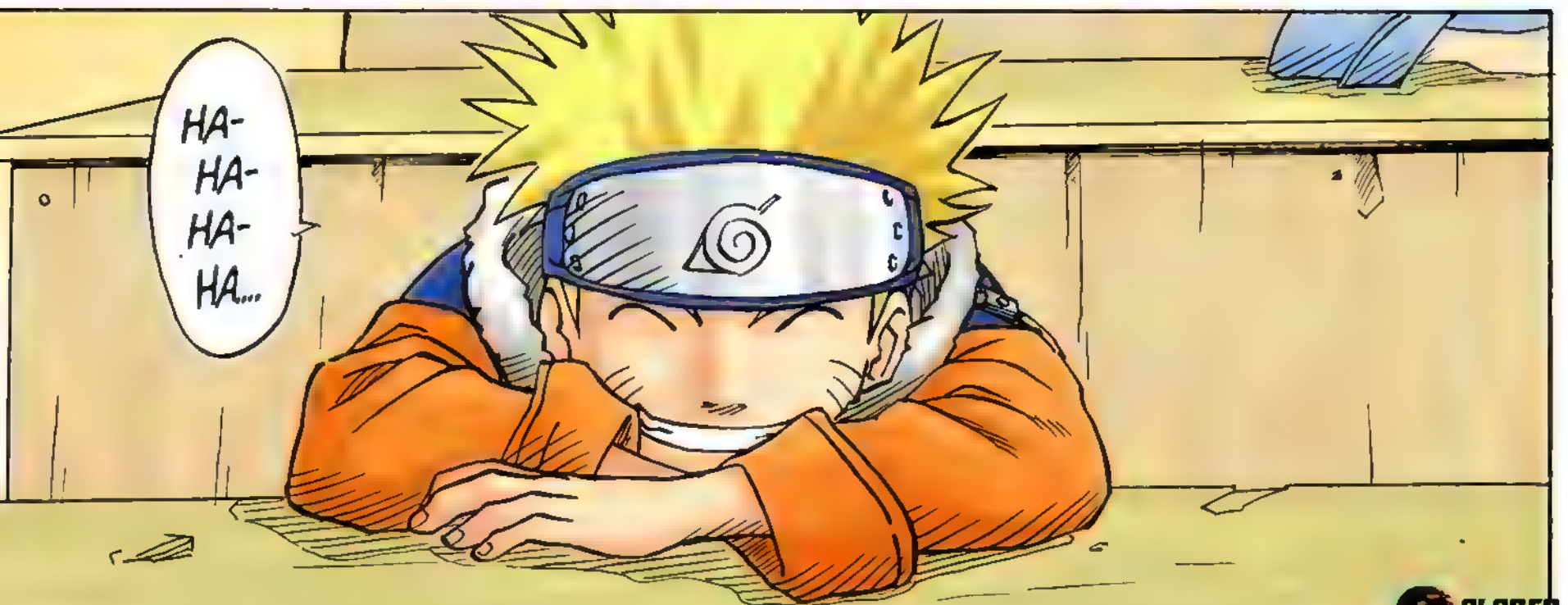


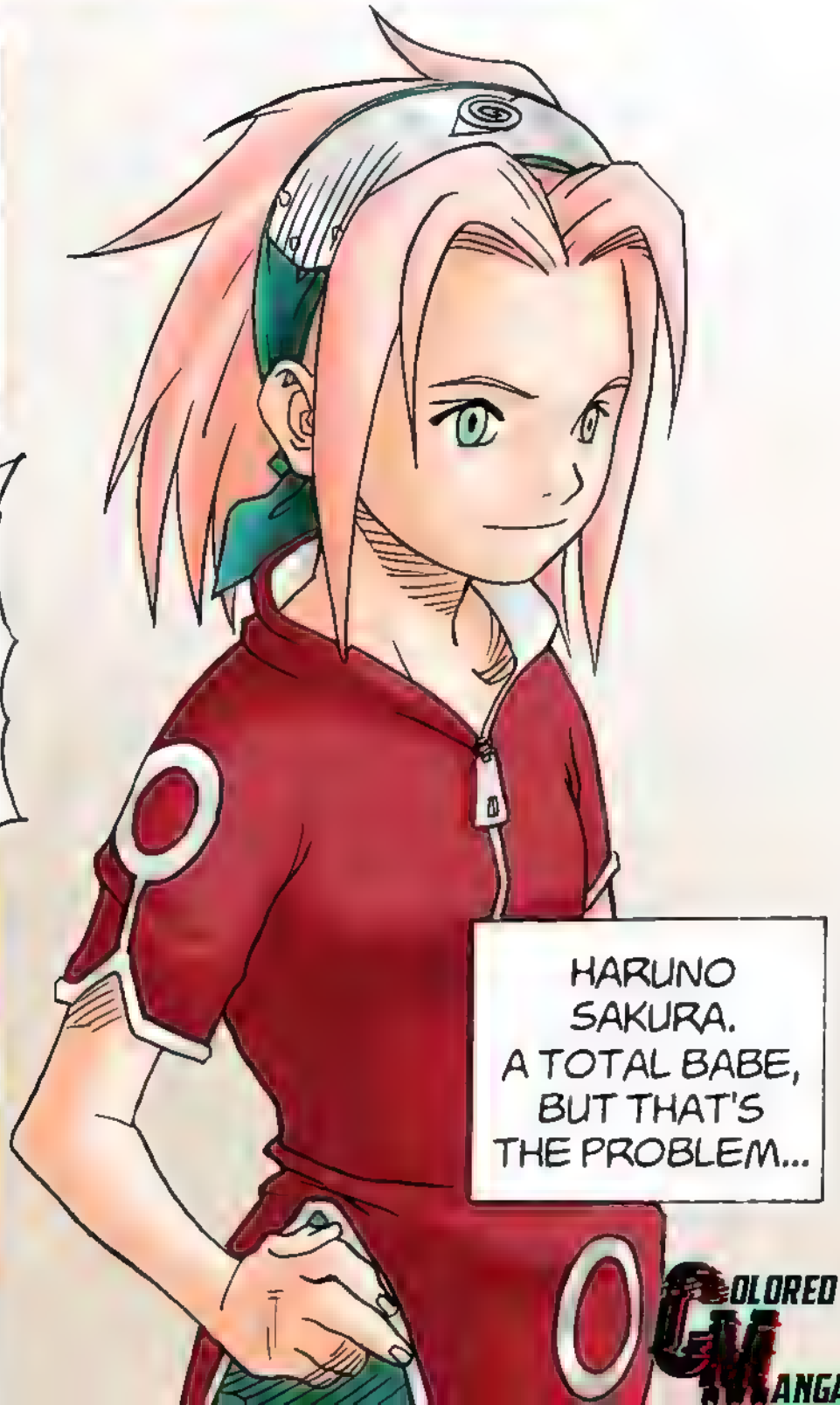
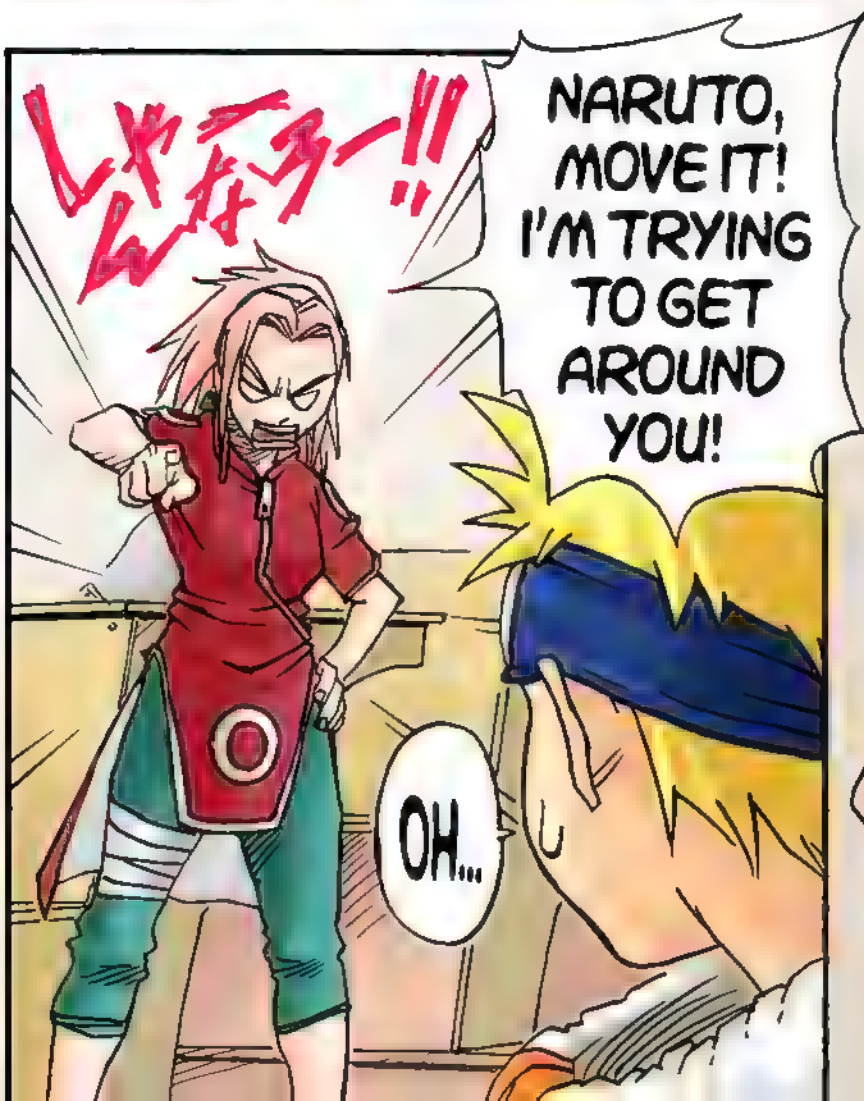
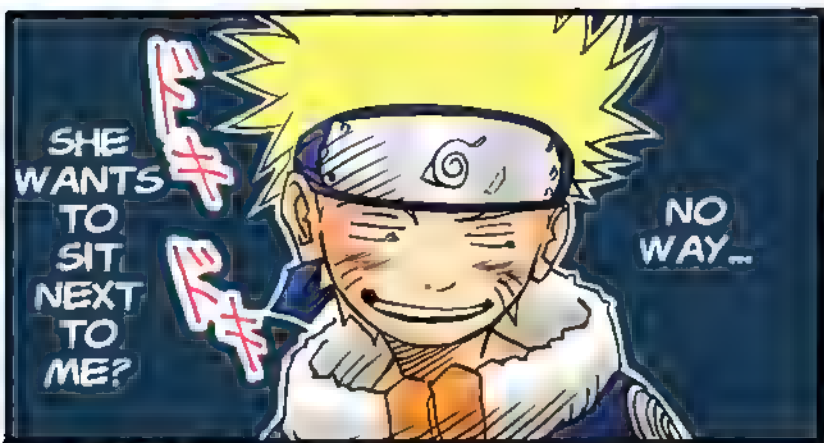
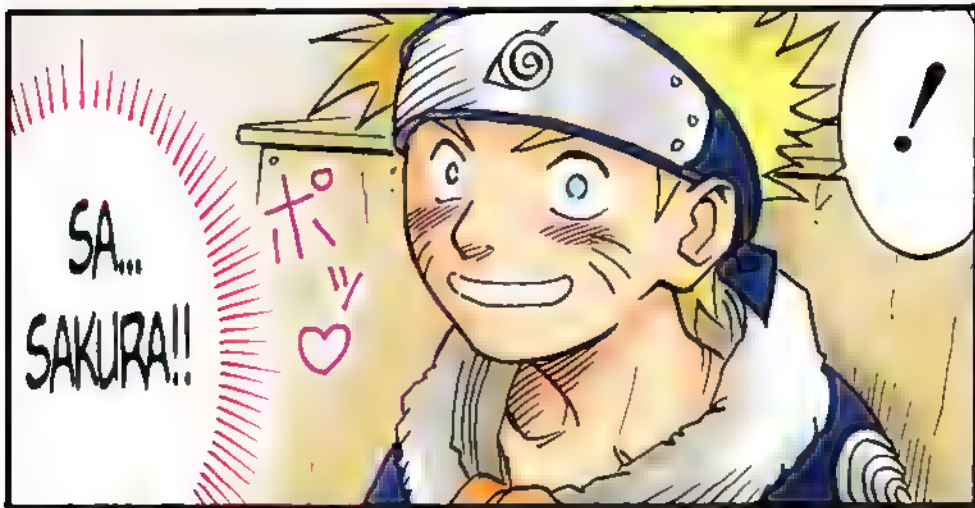
3 : ENTER SASUKE!!

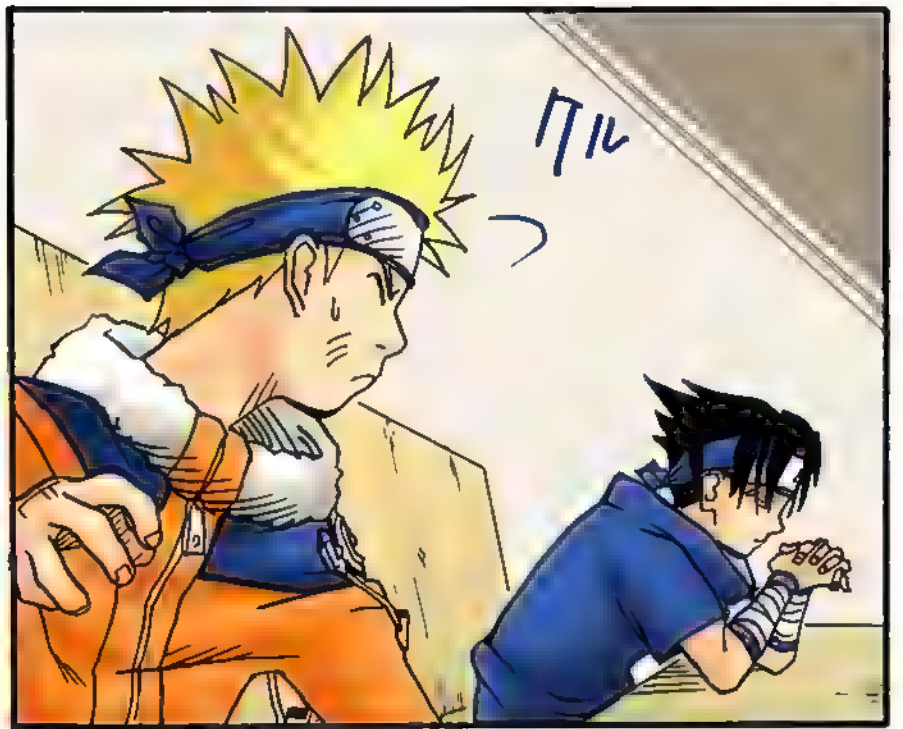
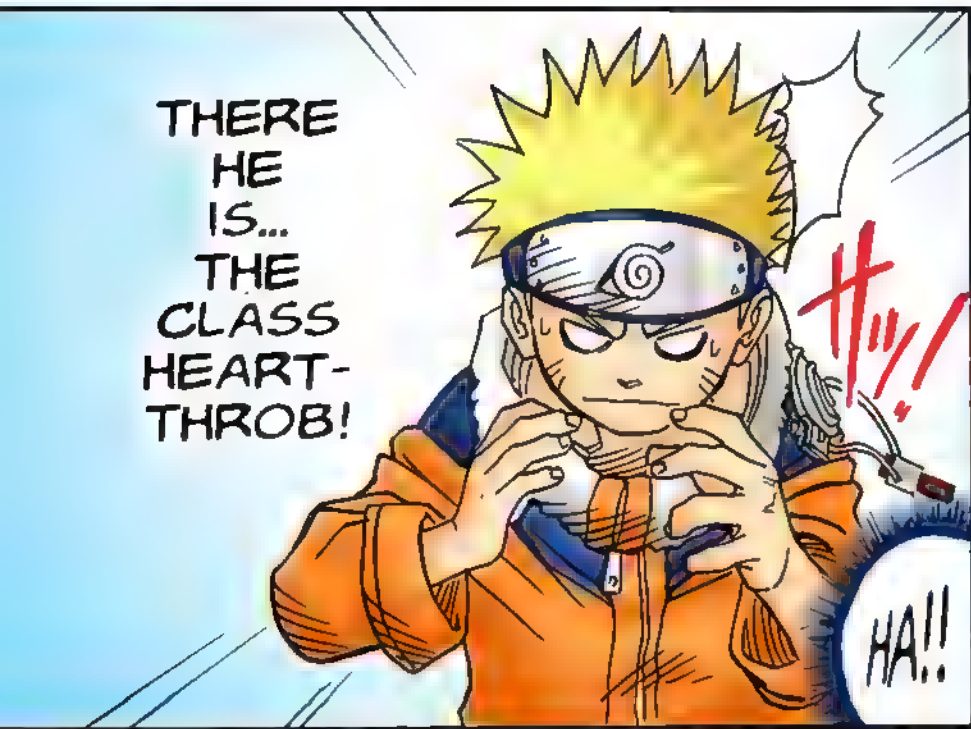
うちはサスケ!!



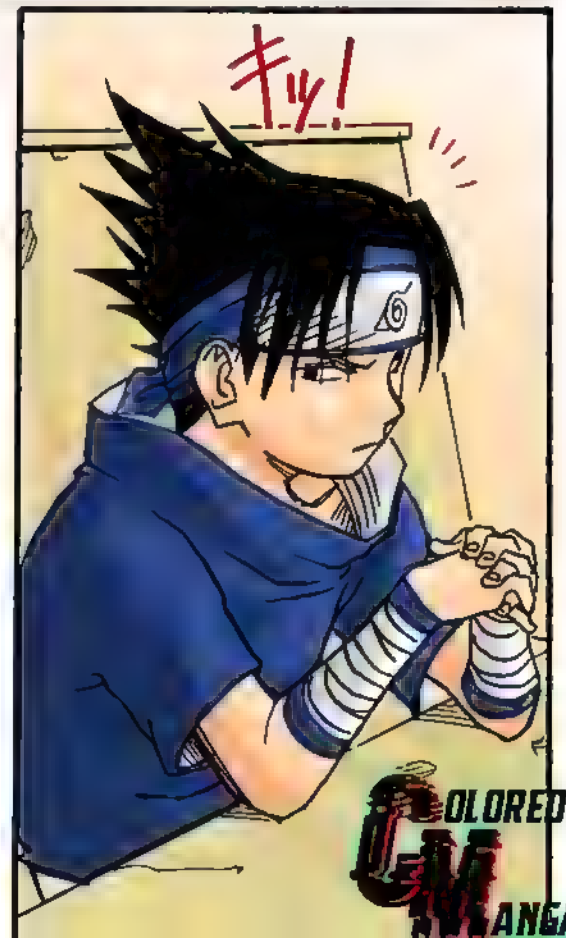
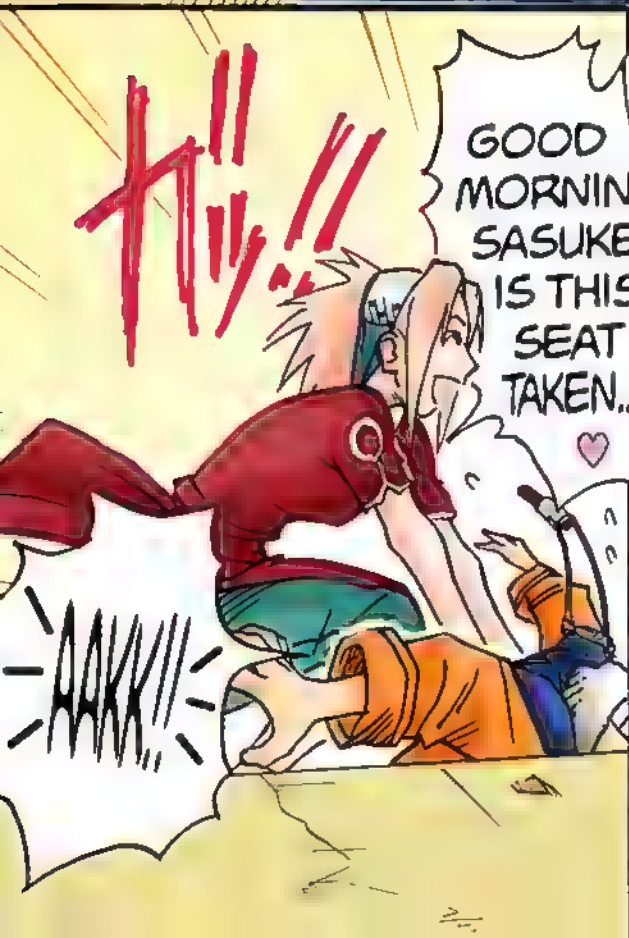


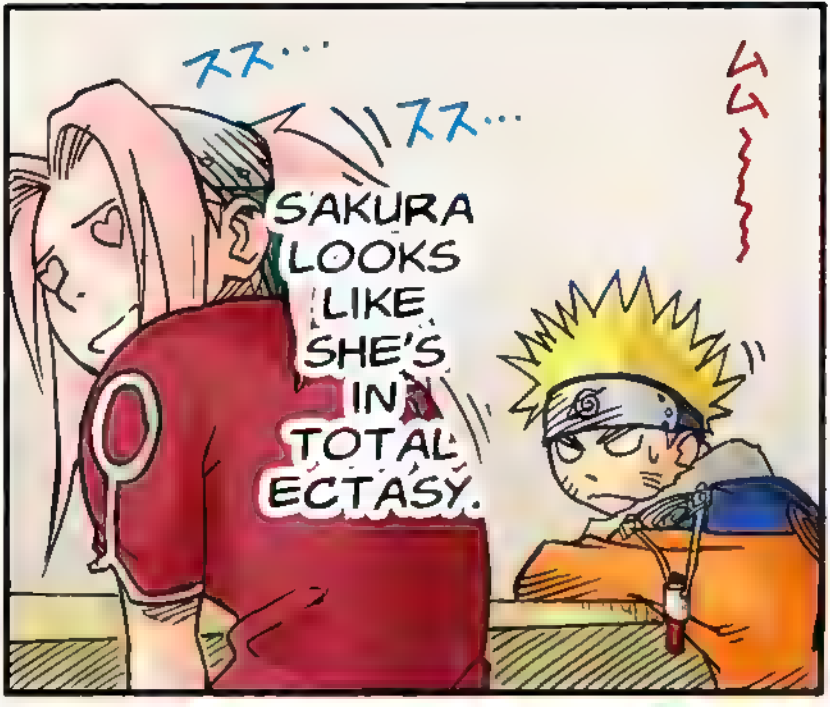
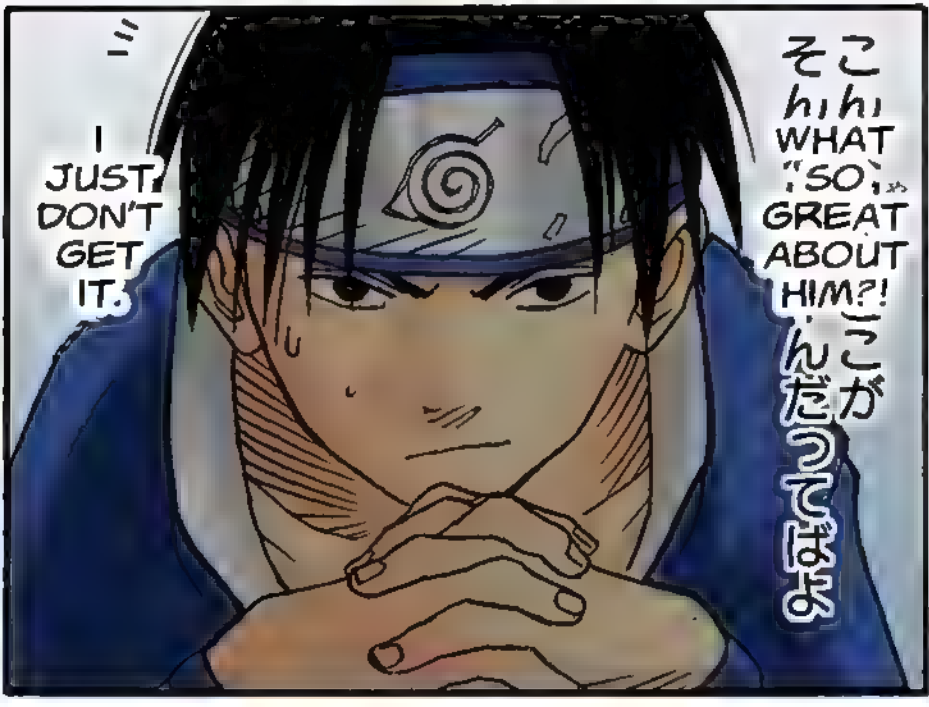
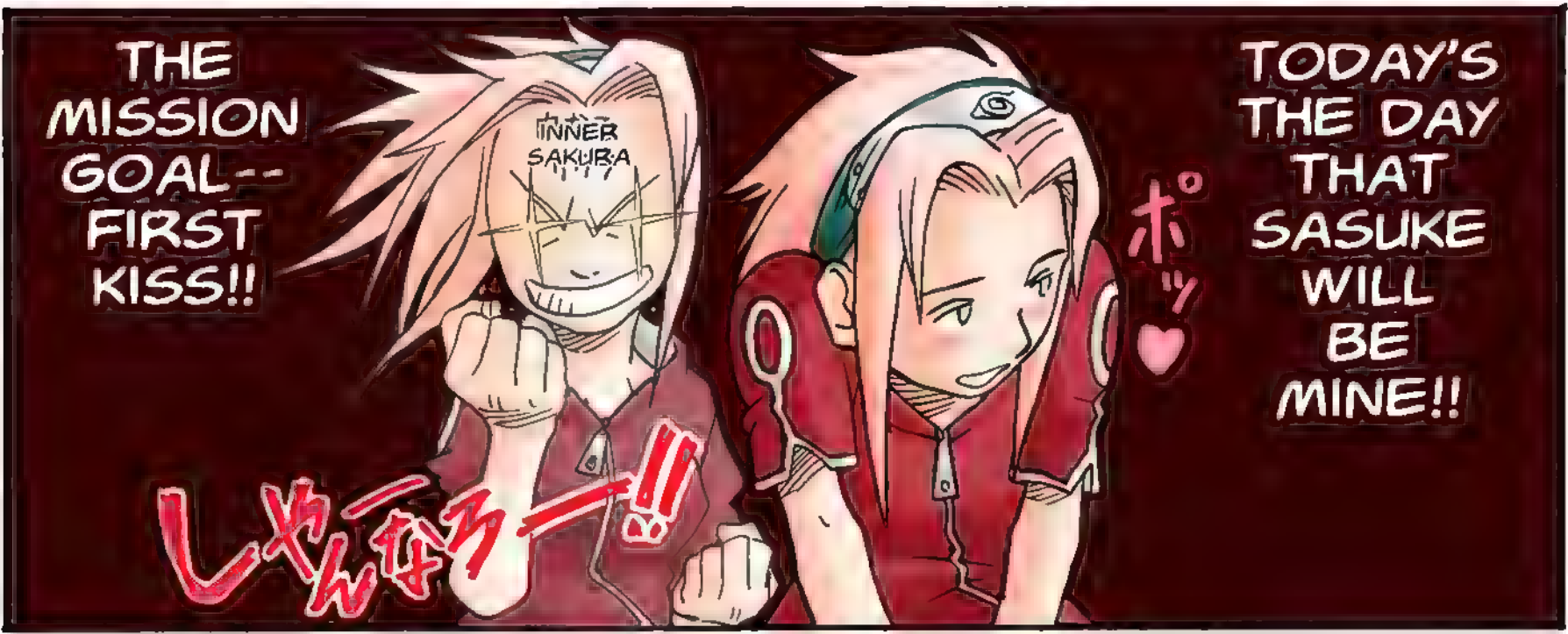
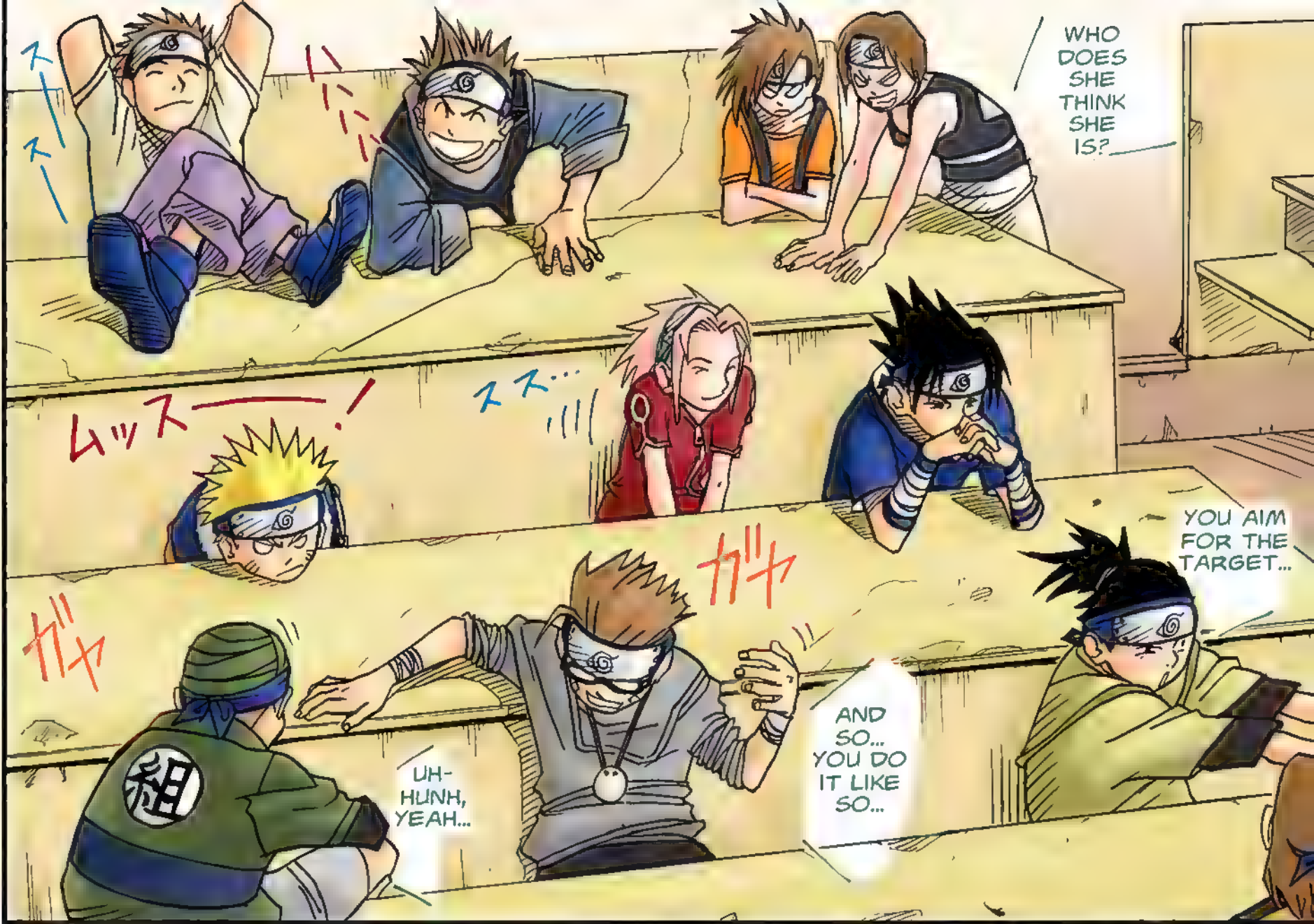


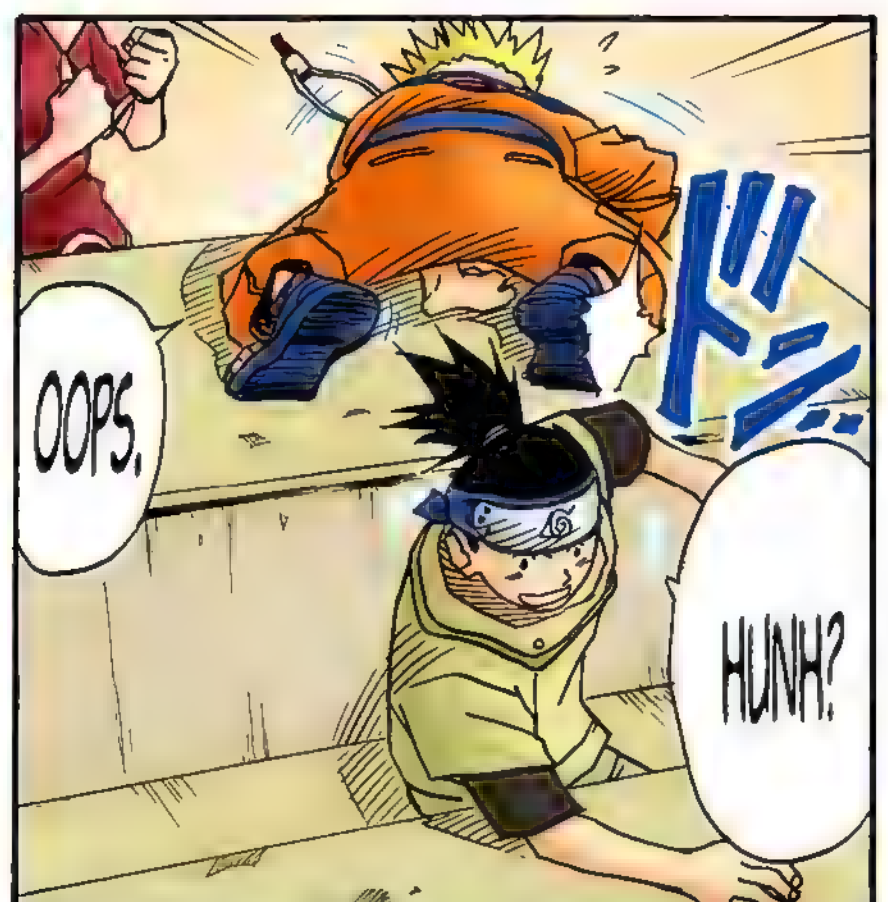
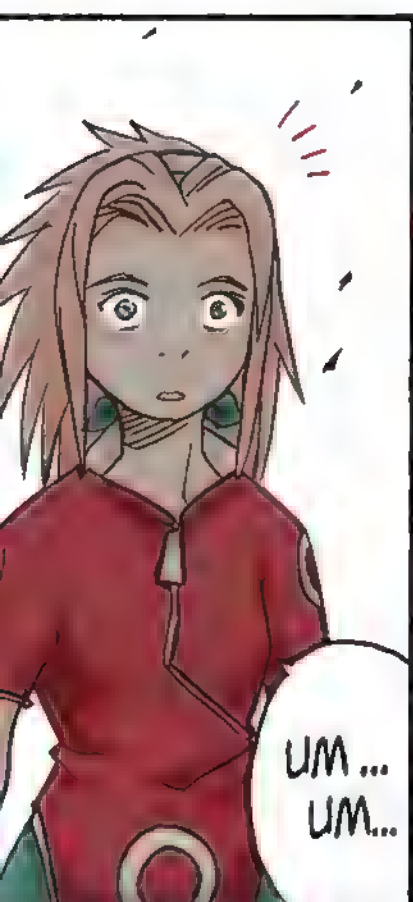
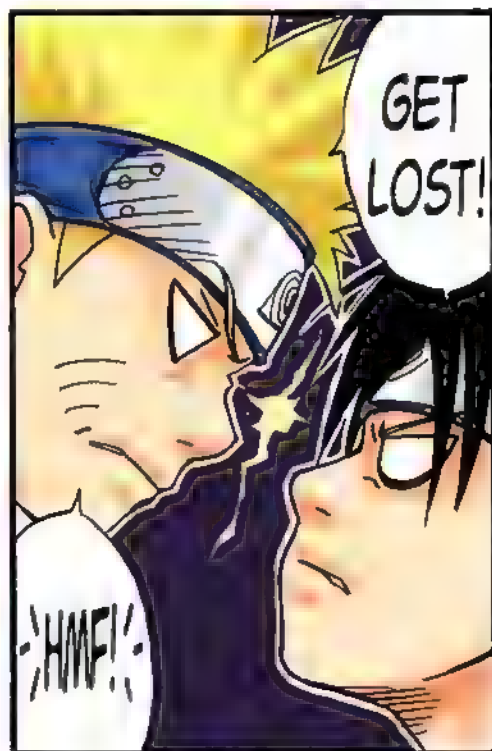


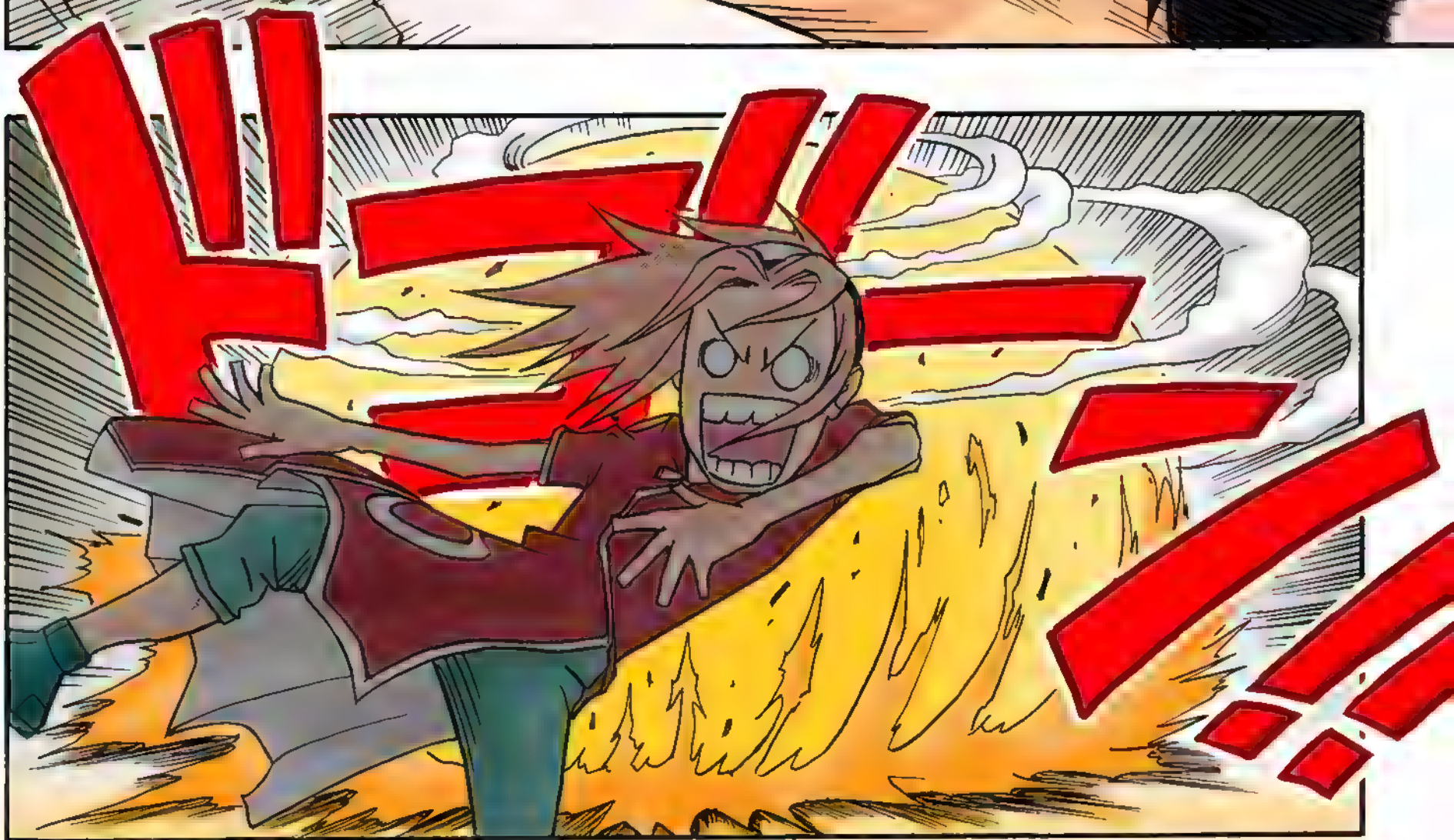
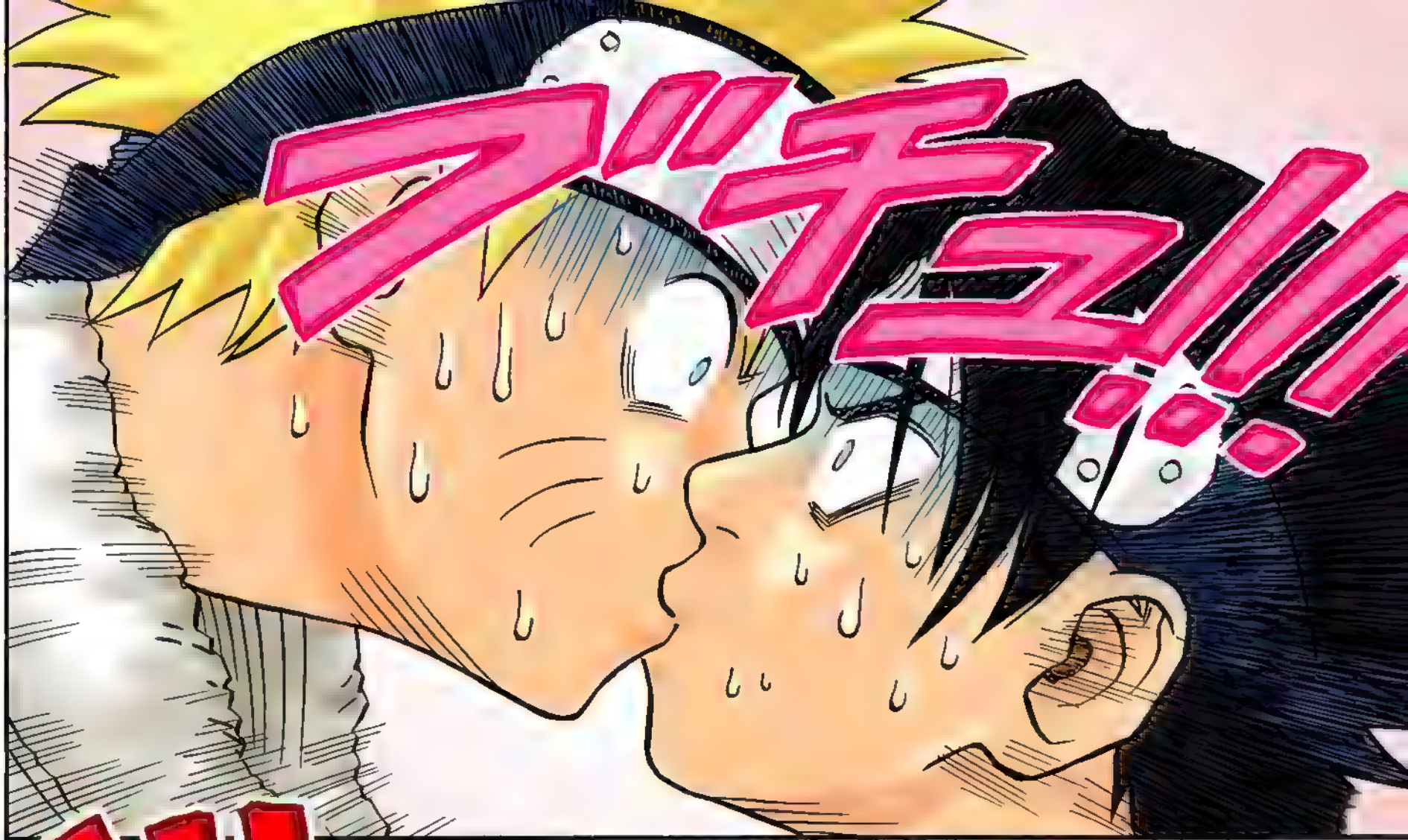


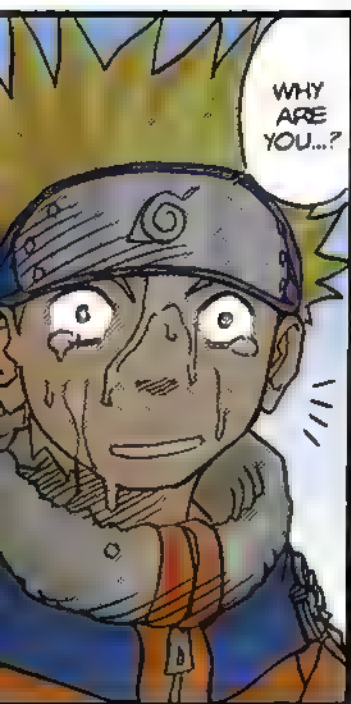
UCHIHA SASUKE! THINKS HE'S SO COOL. I HATE THAT GUY!



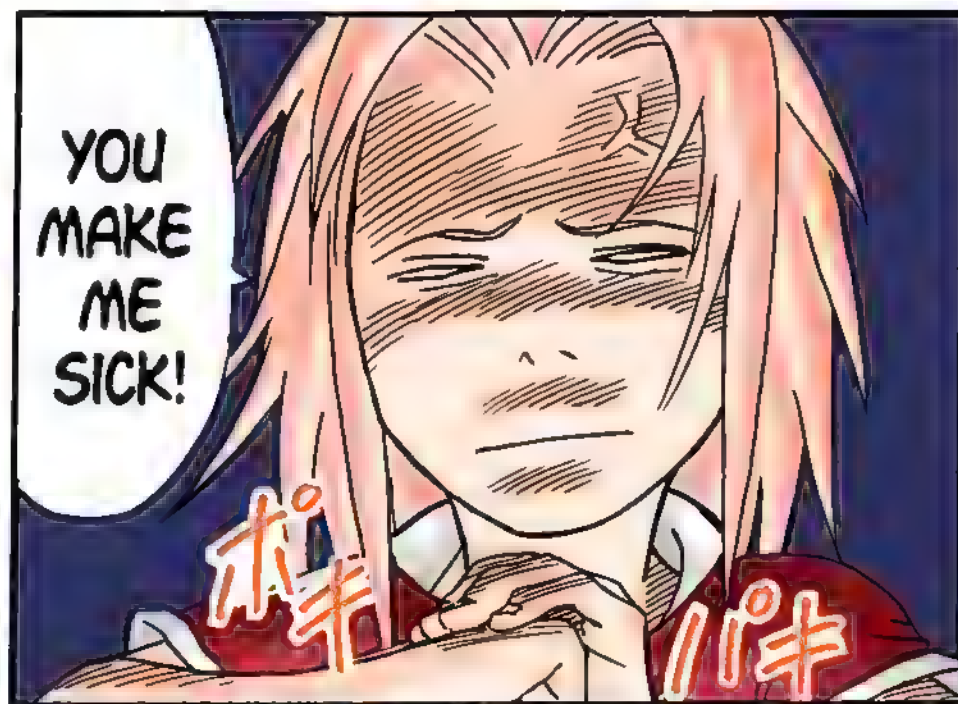








WHY ARE YOU...?

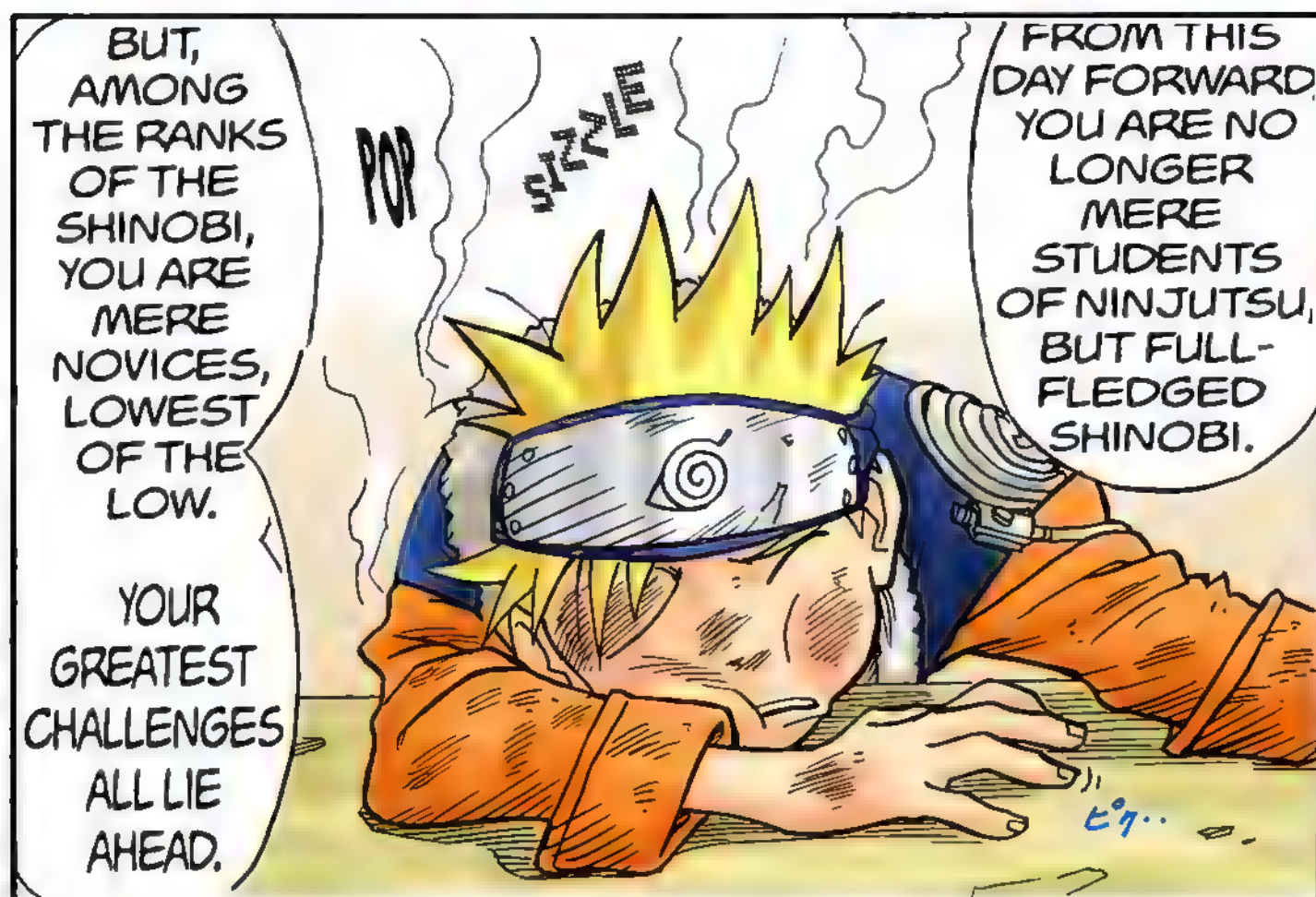


YOU MAKE ME SICK!



NARUTO...

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!!
I SWEAR!



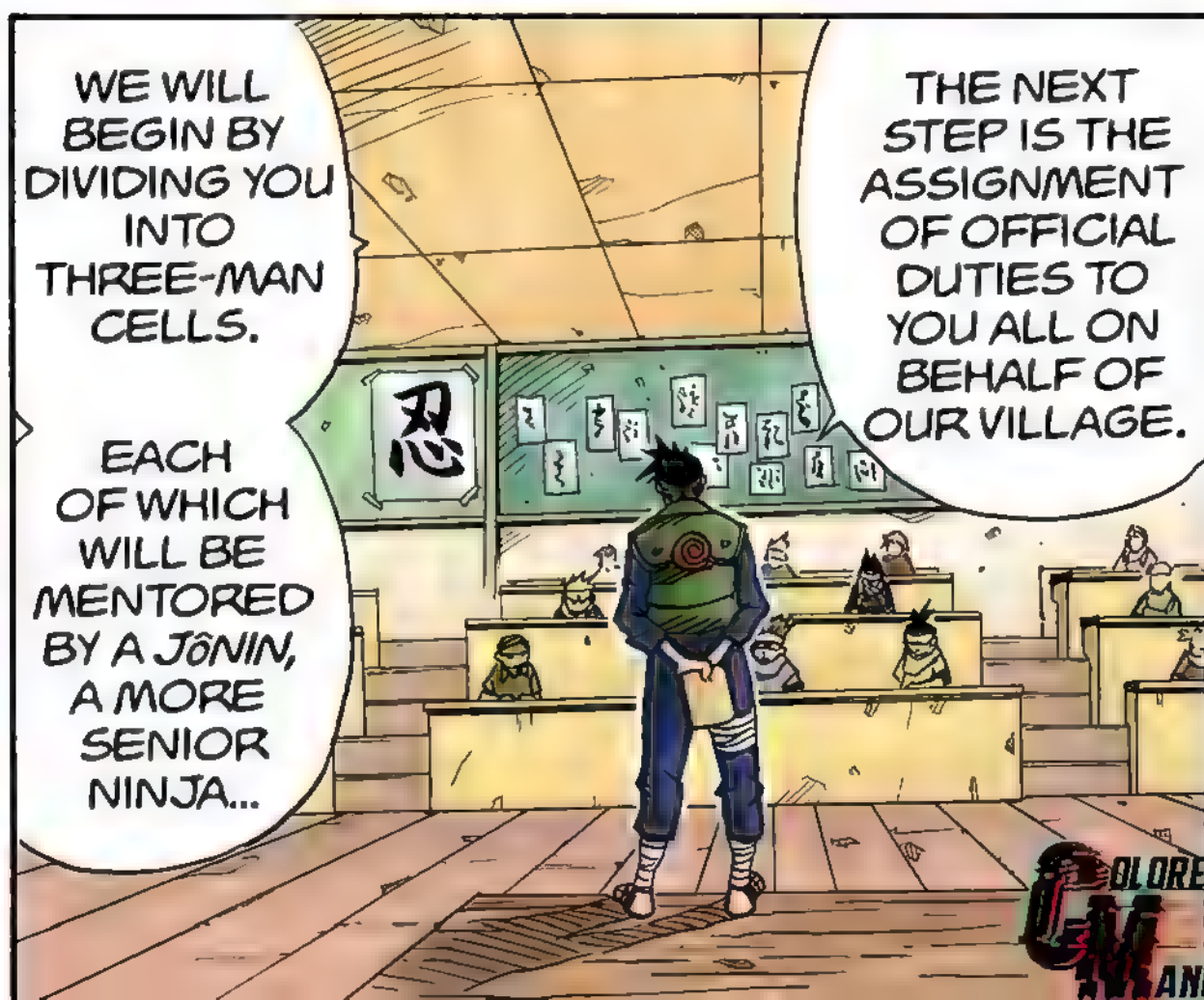
BUT, AMONG THE RANKS OF THE SHINOBI, YOU ARE MERE NOVICES, LOWEST OF THE LOW.

YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGES ALL LIE AHEAD.

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD YOU ARE NO LONGER MERE STUDENTS OF NINJUTSU, BUT FULL-FLEDGED SHINOBI.



... WHO WILL GUIDE AND COACH YOU AS YOU BECOME FAMILIAR WITH YOUR VARIOUS ASSIGNMENTS.



WE WILL BEGIN BY DIVIDING YOU INTO THREE-MAN CELLS.

EACH OF WHICH WILL BE MENTORED BY A JÔNIN, A MORE SENIOR NINJA...

THE NEXT STEP IS THE ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICIAL DUTIES TO YOU ALL ON BEHALF OF OUR VILLAGE.

SO LONG AS I'M PARTNERED WITH SAKURA... I'LL TAKE ANYBODY ELSE... EXCEPT SASUKE!

IT'S PERFECT! I KNOW THEY'LL TEAM ME UP WITH SASUKE!

THREE MAN CELLS? SOUNDS LIKE TWO TOO MANY...

1. Name	6. Name
2. Name	7. Name
3. Name	8. Name
4. Name	9. Name

WHA-----T!!

I MADE THE SELECTIONS SO THAT EACH CELL'S ABILITIES WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY EQUAL.

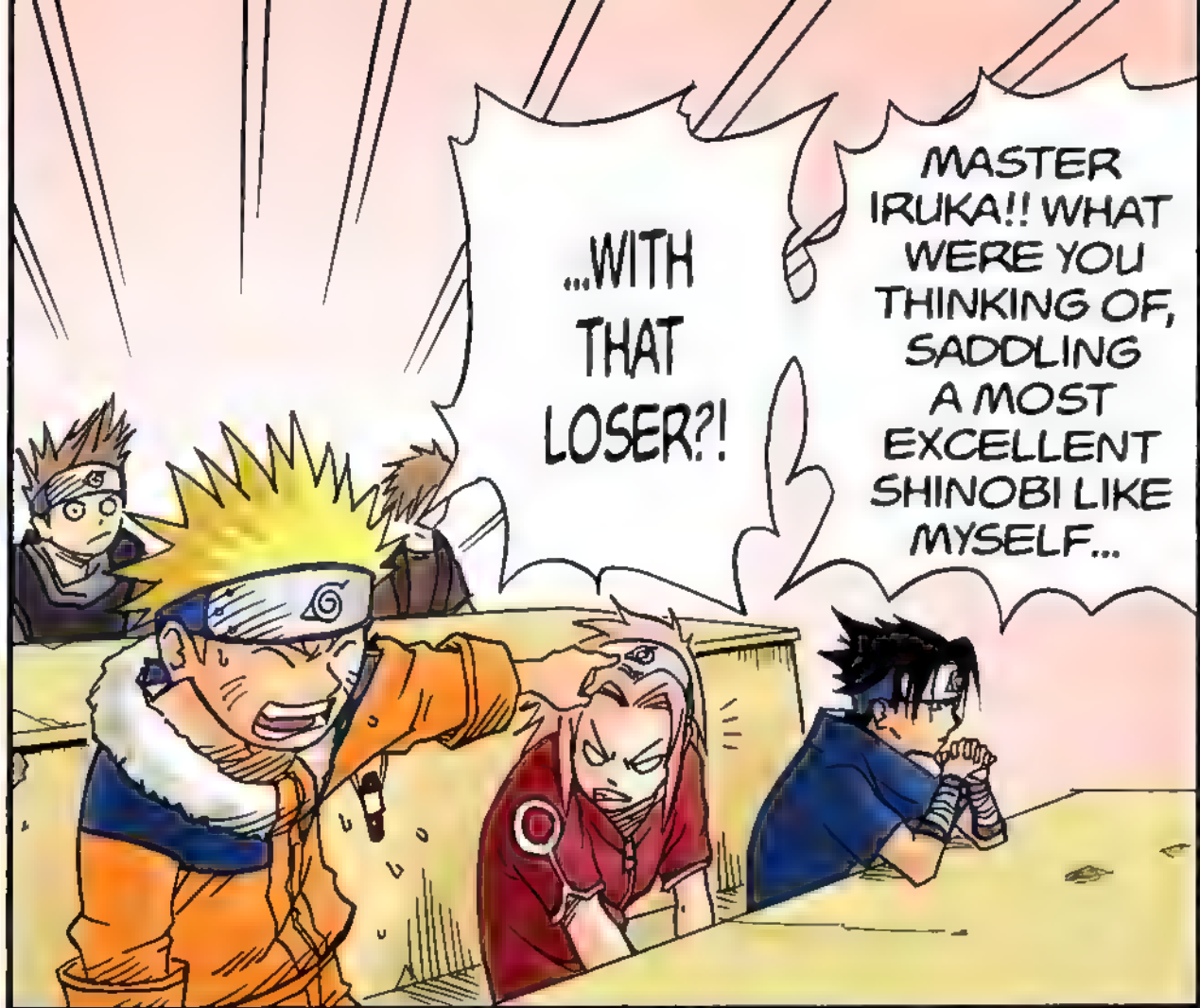
HARUNO SAKURA...
UZUMAKI NARUTO...

NEXT, CELL NUMBER SEVEN.

OH, YEAH!!

AND... UCHIHA SASUKE!

WOO-HOO!



...WITH
THAT
LOSER?!

MASTER
IRUKA!! WHAT
WERE YOU
THINKING OF,
SADDLING
A MOST
EXCELLENT
SHINOBI LIKE
MYSELF...

THE IDEA IS
TO BALANCE
YOUR DIFFERENT
STRENGTHS...
THAT'S
WHY YOU
ENDED UP
TOGETHER!



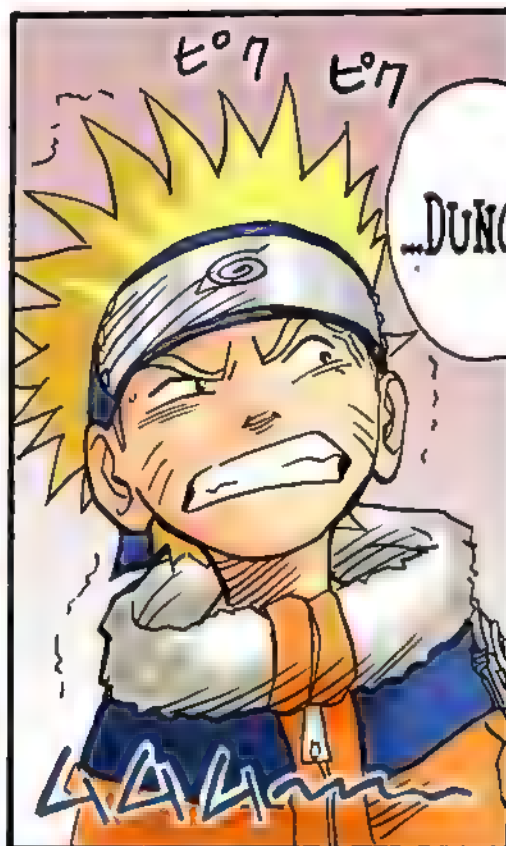
..... OF THE
TWENTY-
SEVEN
OF YOU,
SASUKE HAS
THE BEST
GRADES,
NARUTO.

YOU
WOULD
BE THE
BOTTOM OF
THE CLASS.



JUST
KNOCK
IT
OFF,
NARUTO!

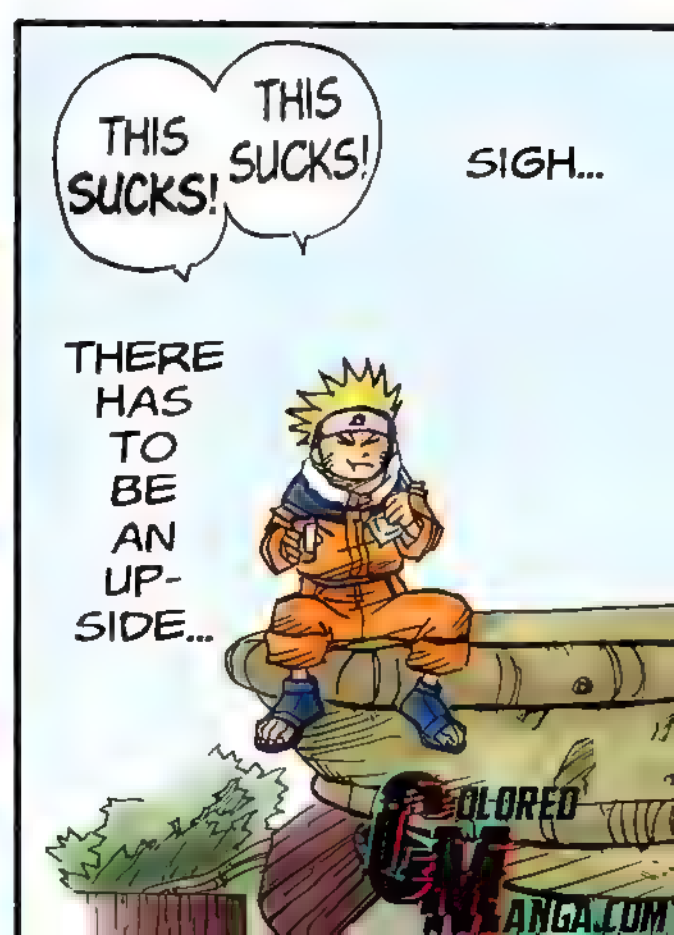
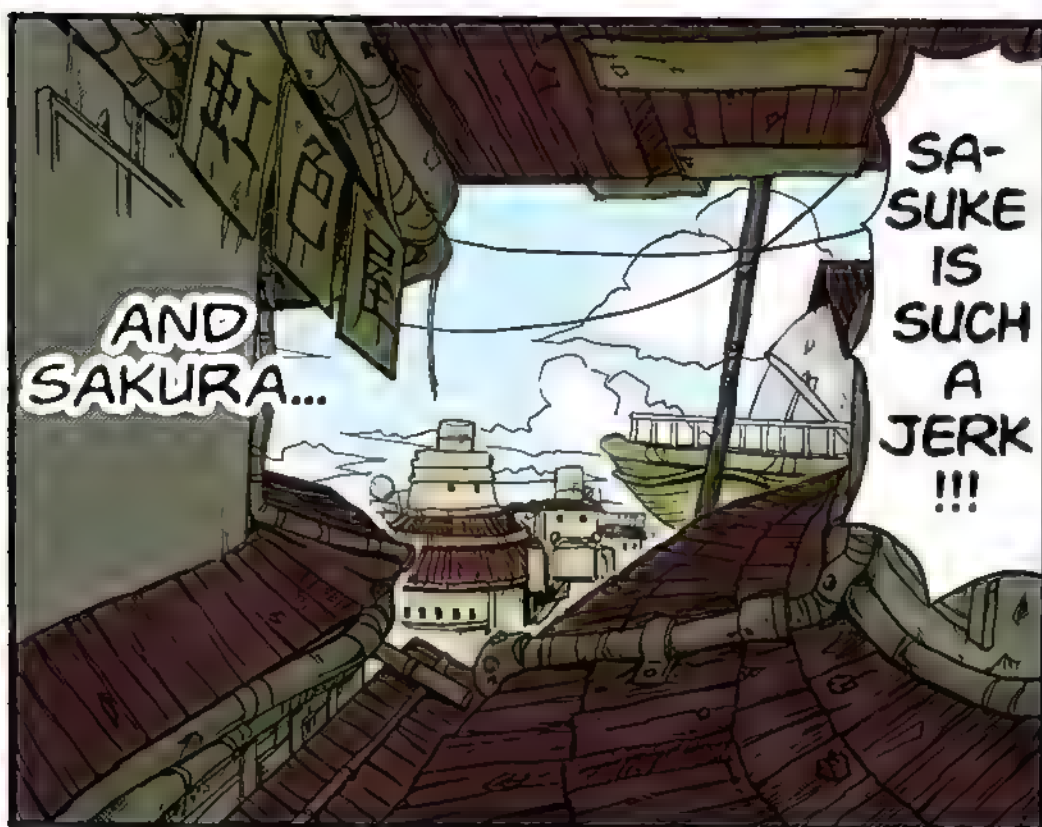
WHAT'D
YOU
CALL
ME?!

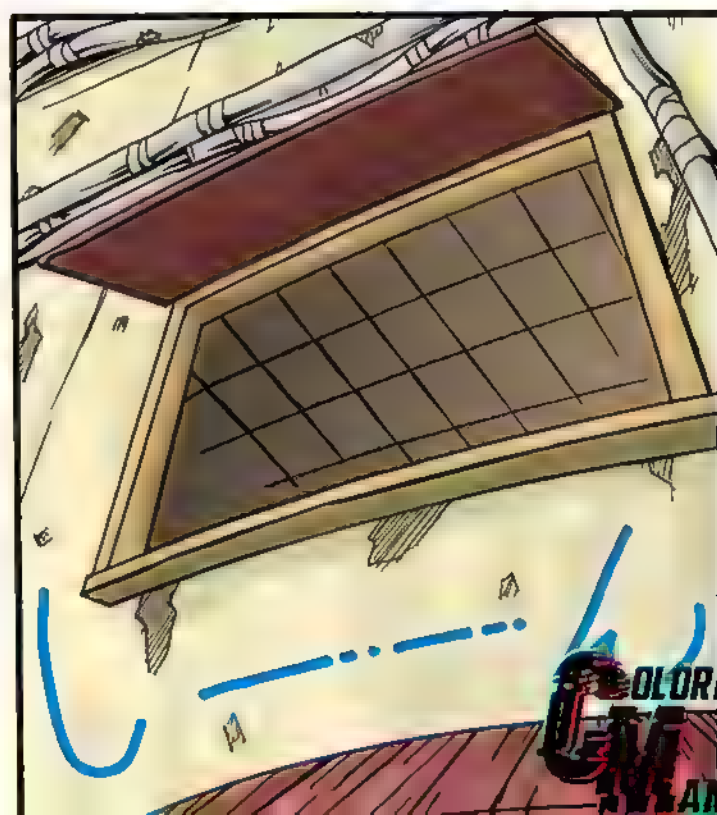
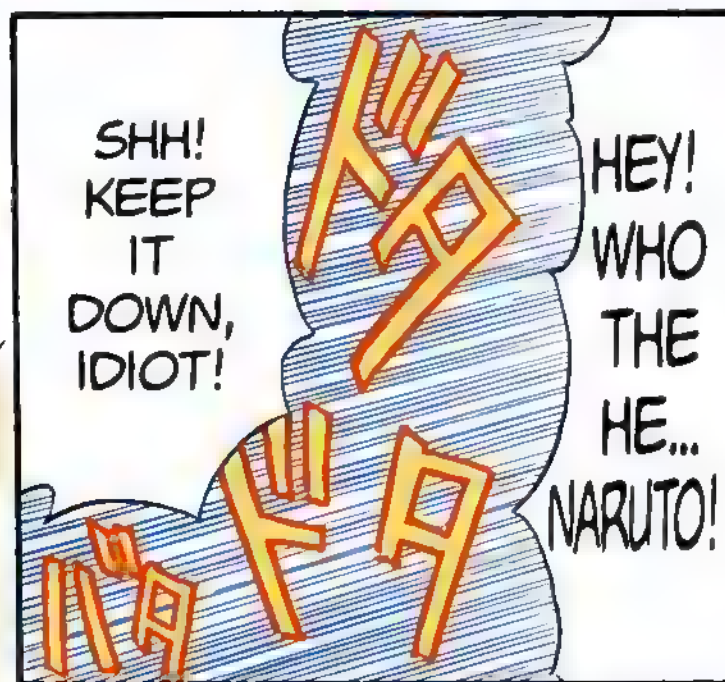
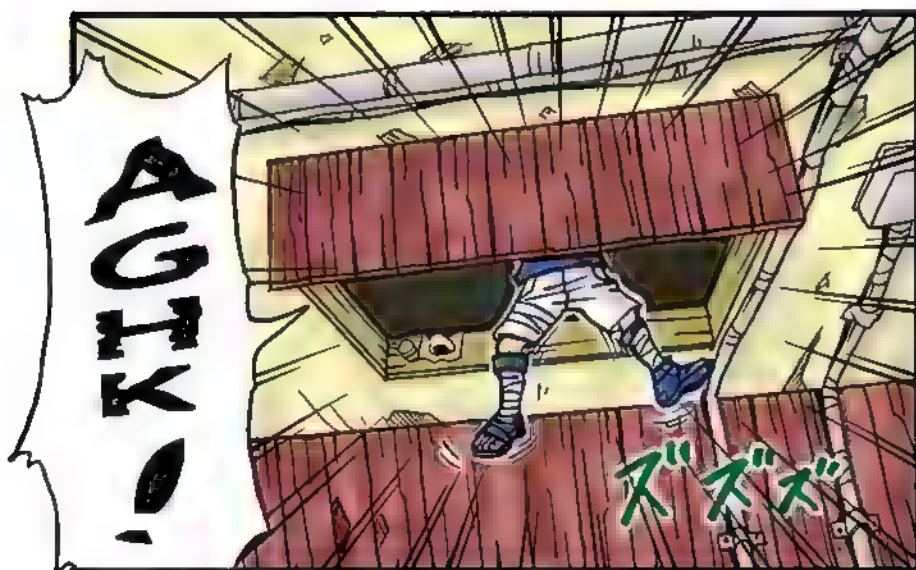
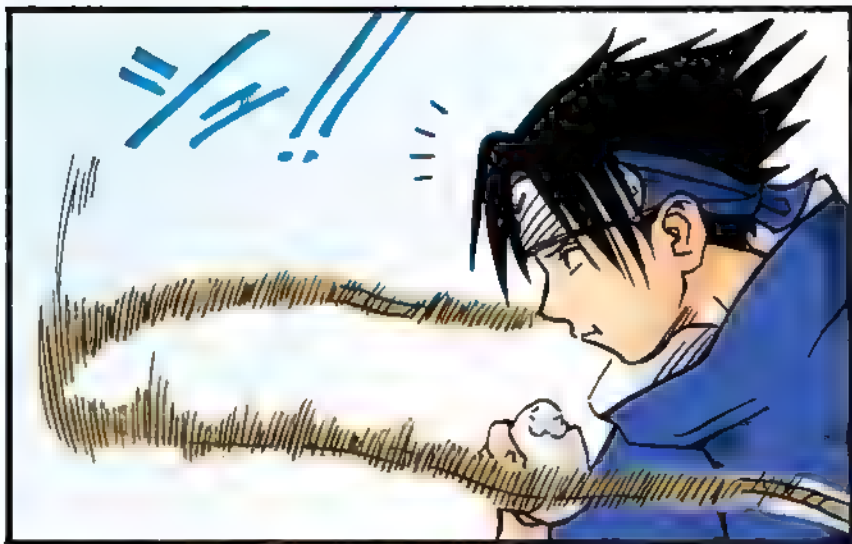


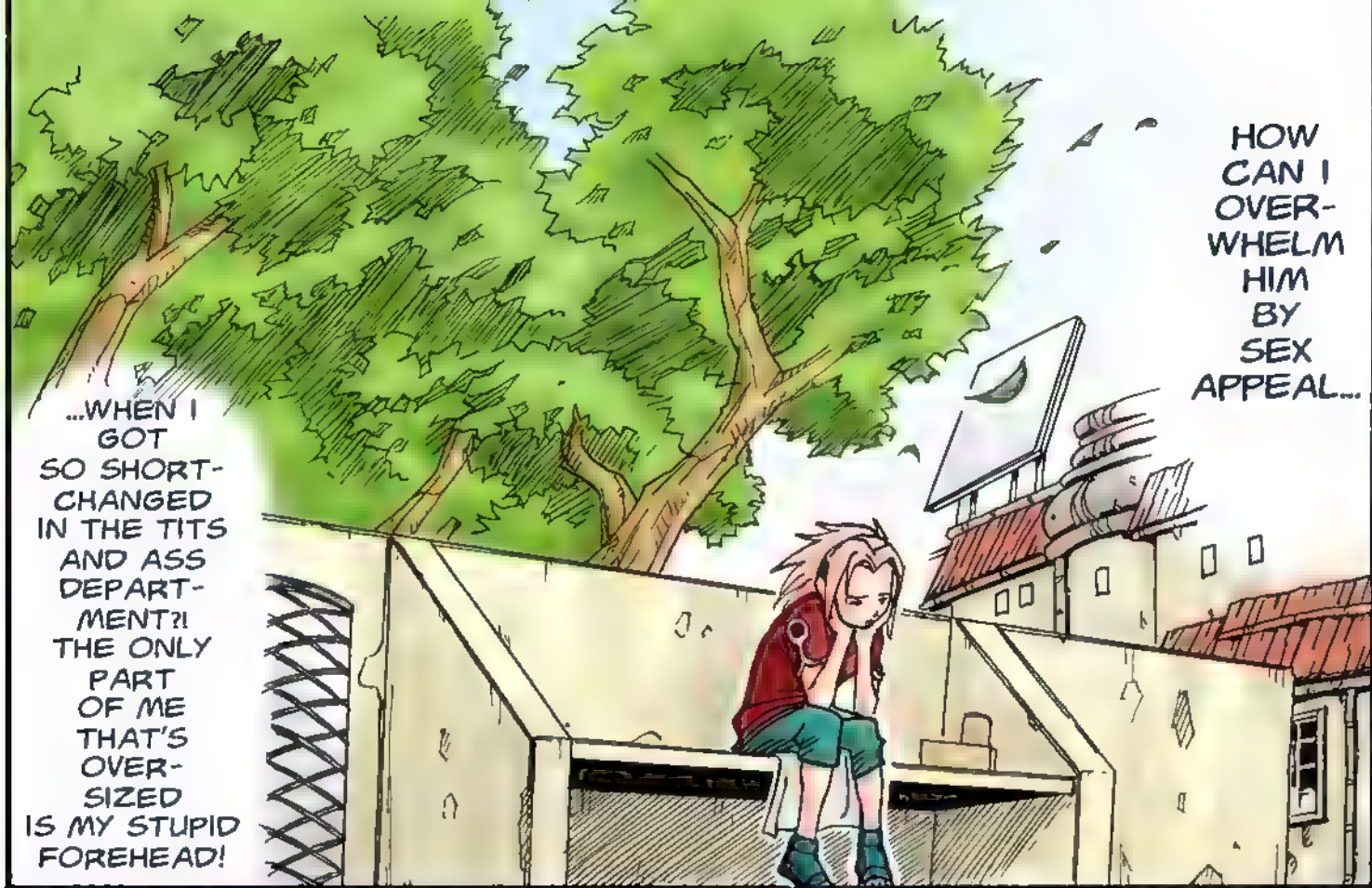
...DUNCE!



JUST
DON'T
DRAG
ME
DOWN
...



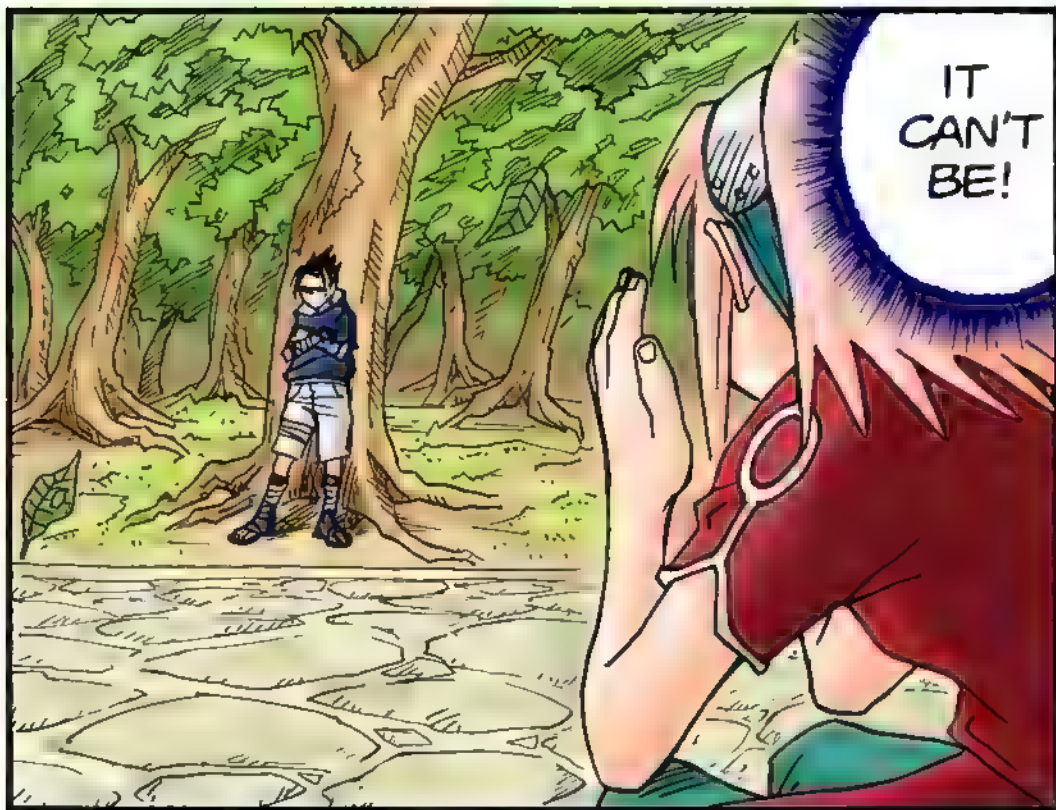




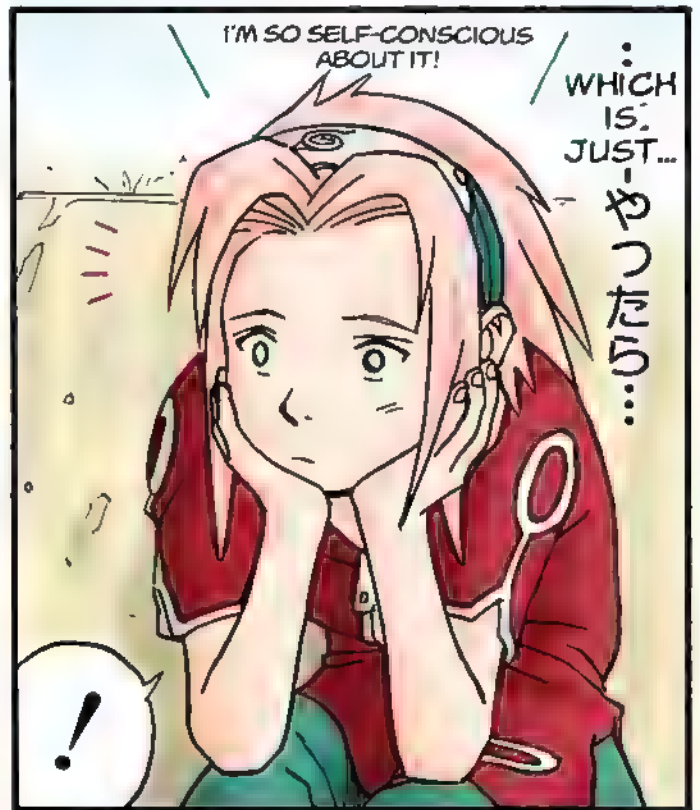
...WHEN I GOT SO SHORT-CHANGED IN THE TITS AND ASS DEPARTMENT!! THE ONLY PART OF ME THAT'S OVER-SIZED IS MY STUPID FOREHEAD!

HOW CAN I OVER-WHELM HIM BY SEX APPEAL...

! 'Sex Appeal' !

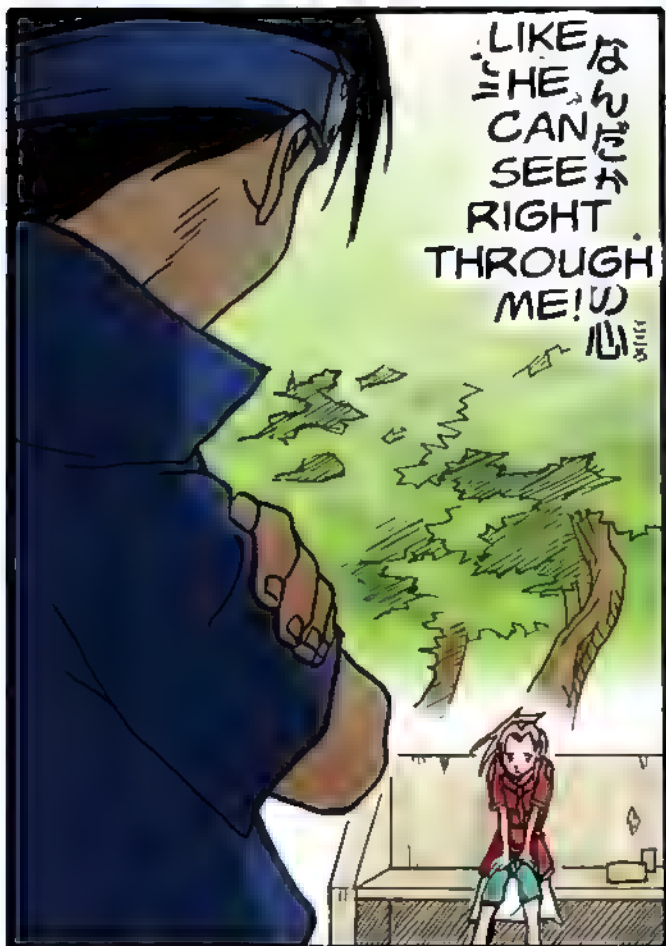


IT CAN'T BE!

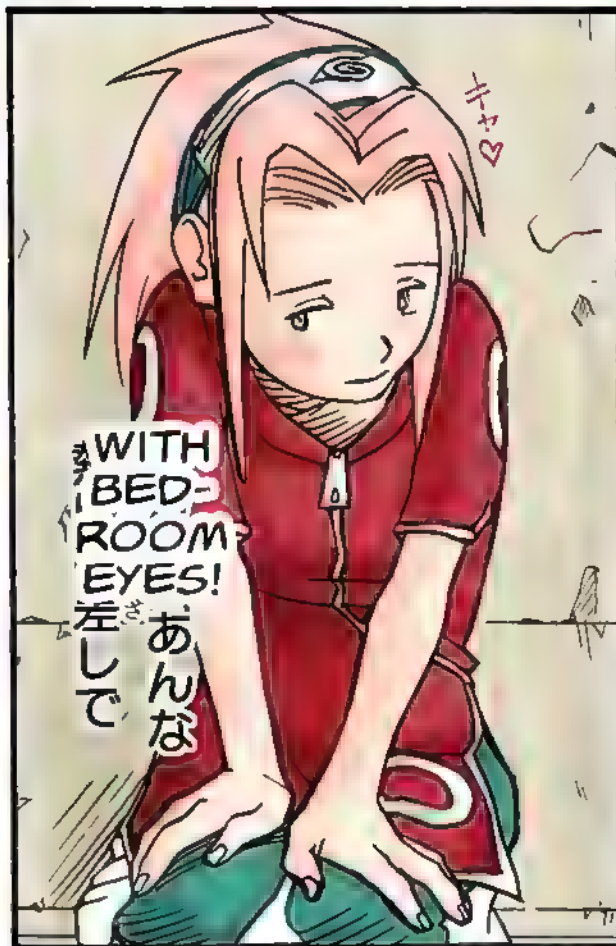


I'M SO SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT IT!

WHICH IS JUST... やつたら...



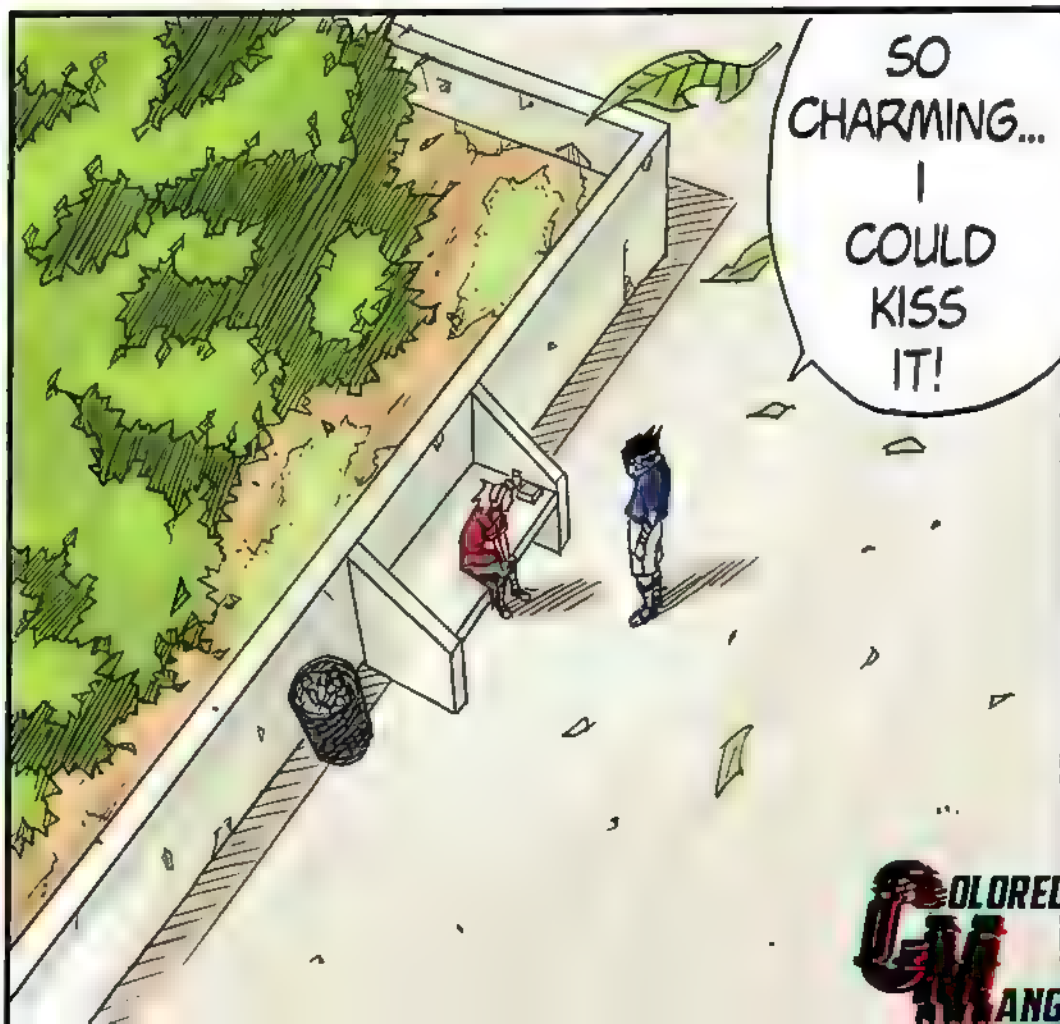
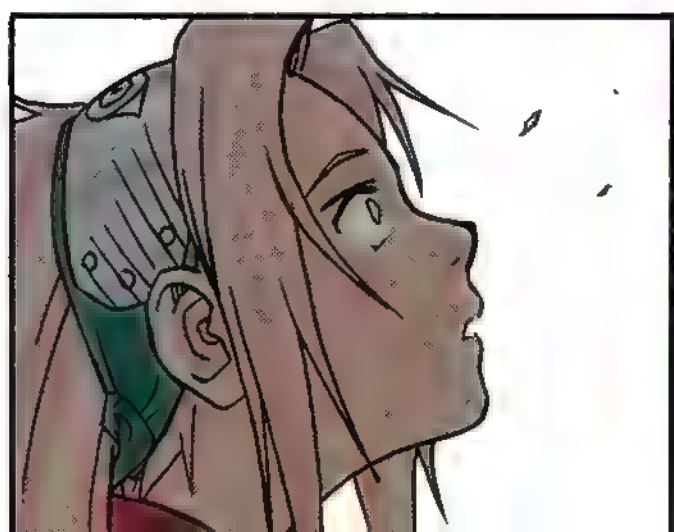
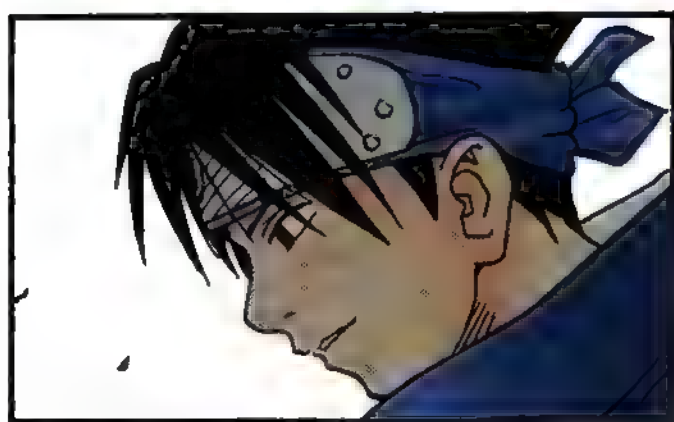
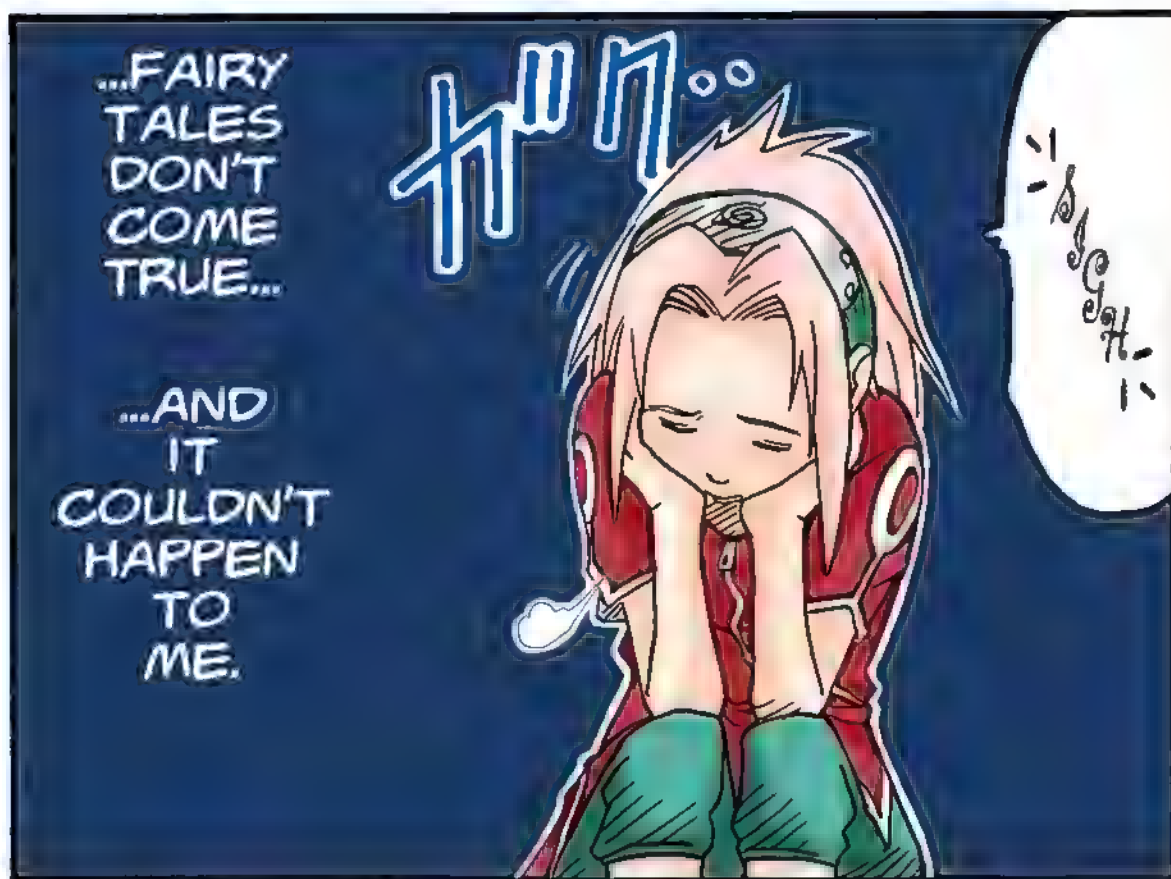
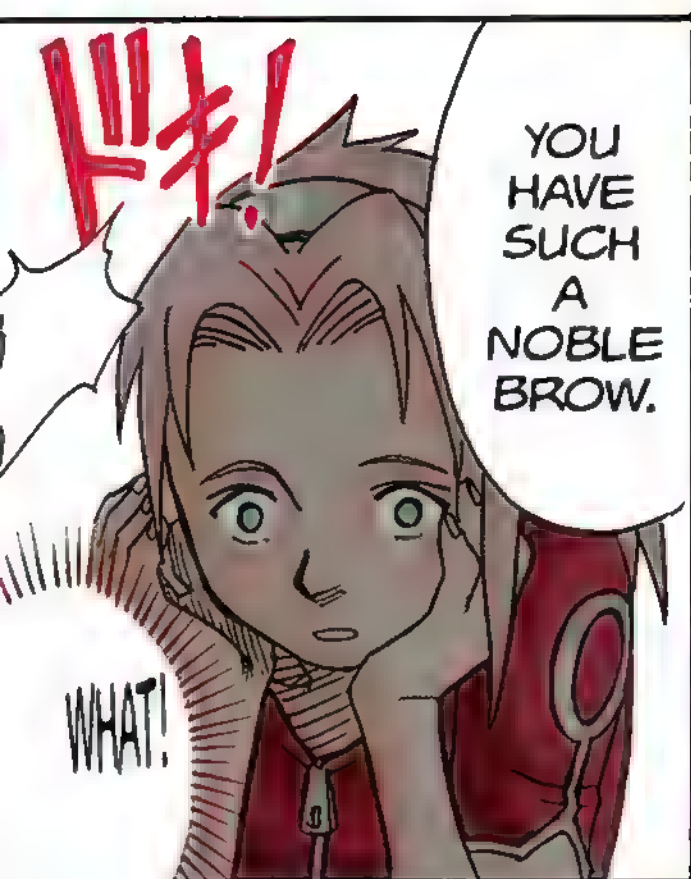
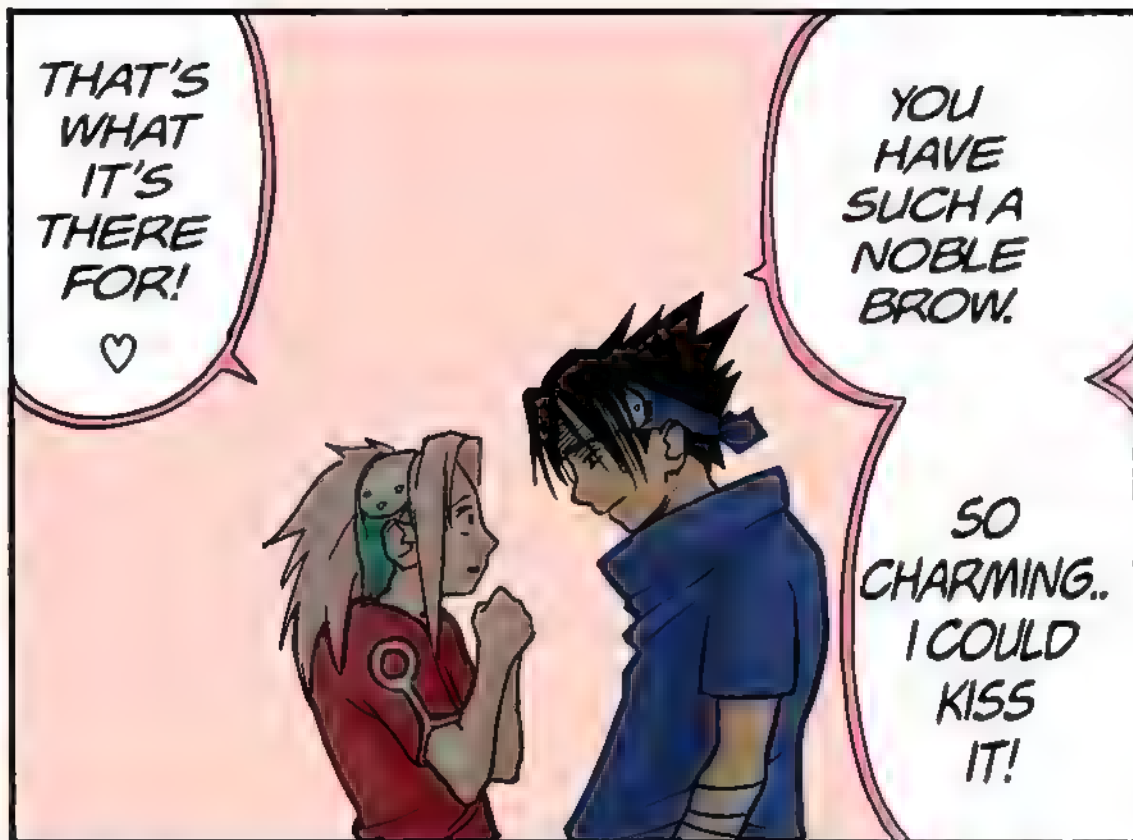
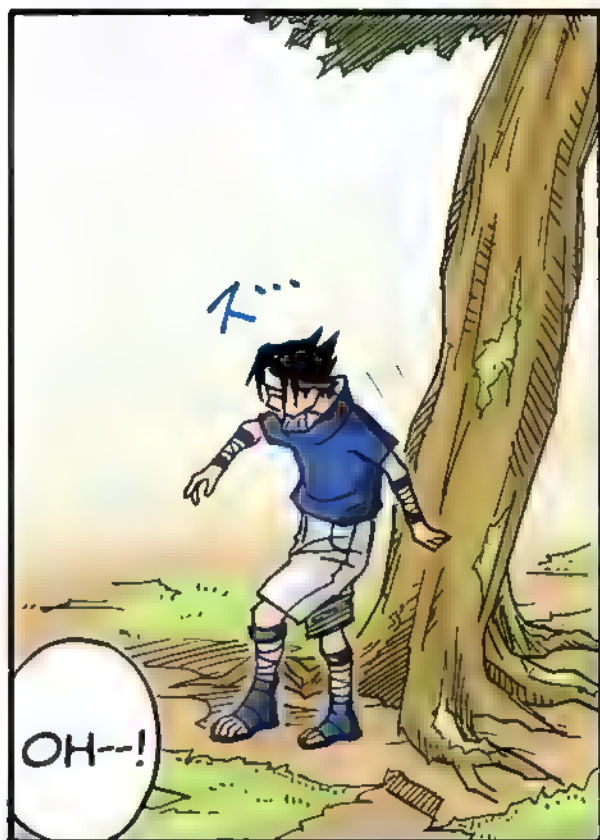
LIKE HE CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME! (心)

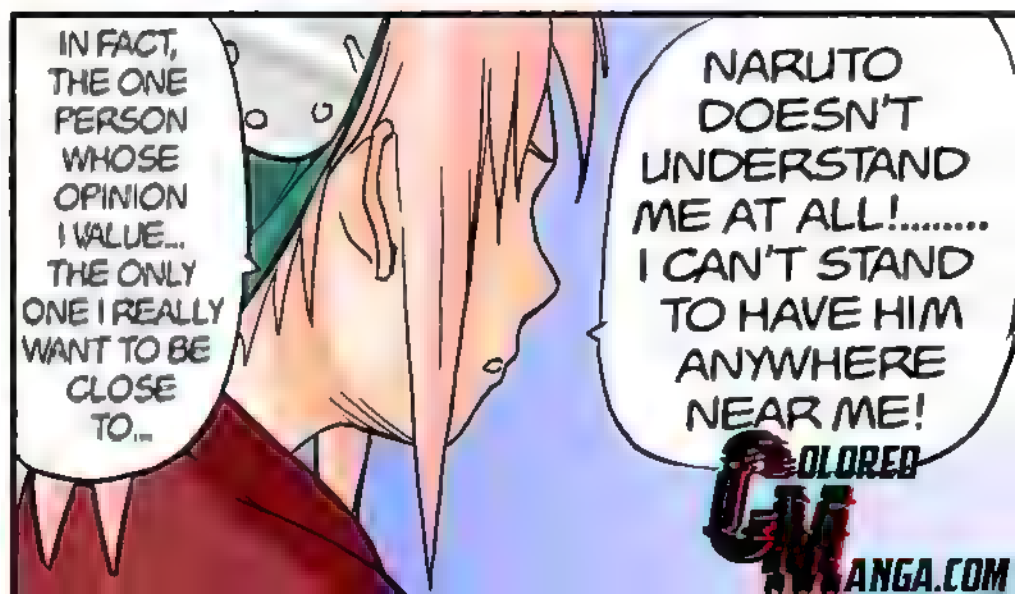
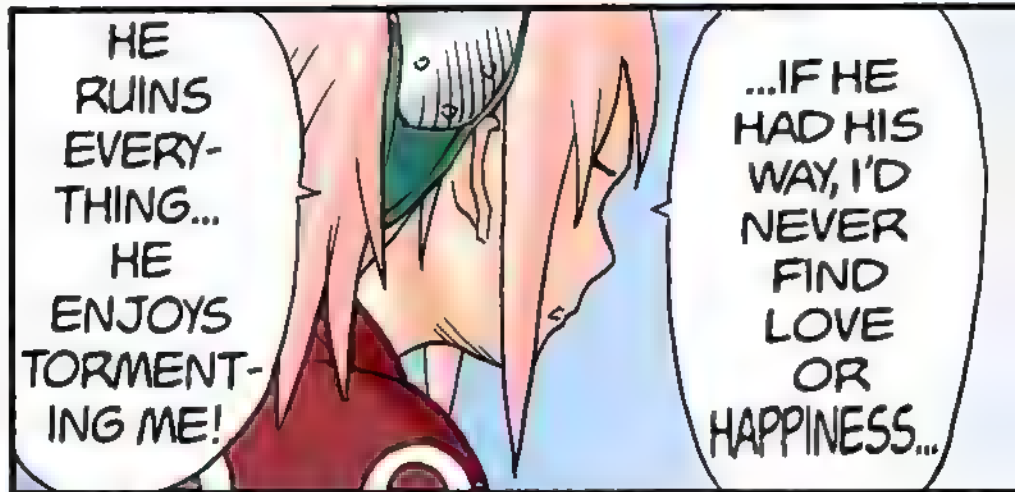
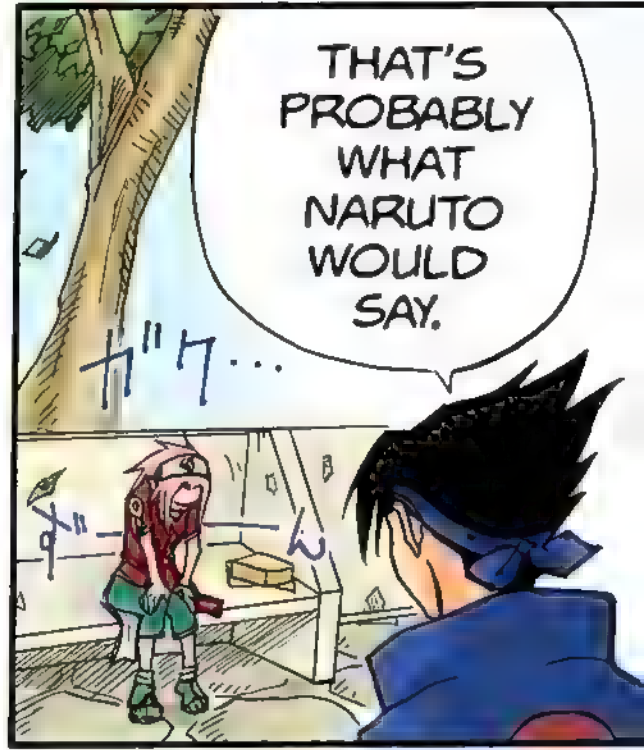
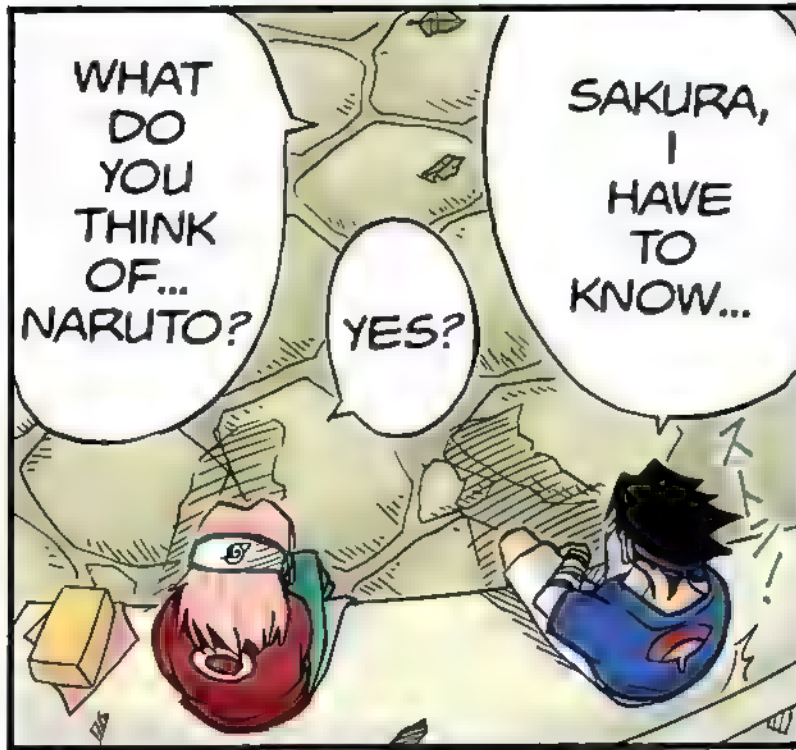
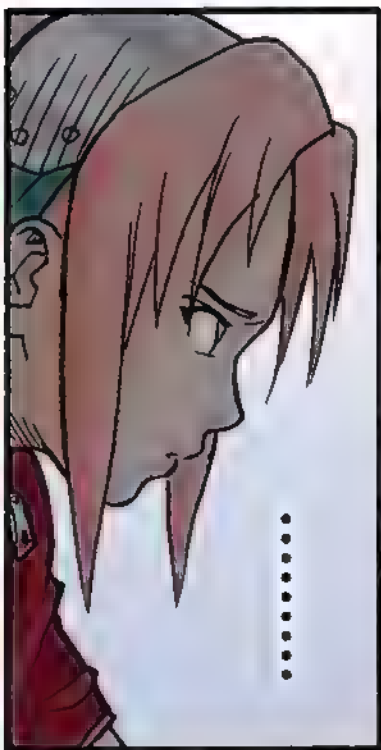
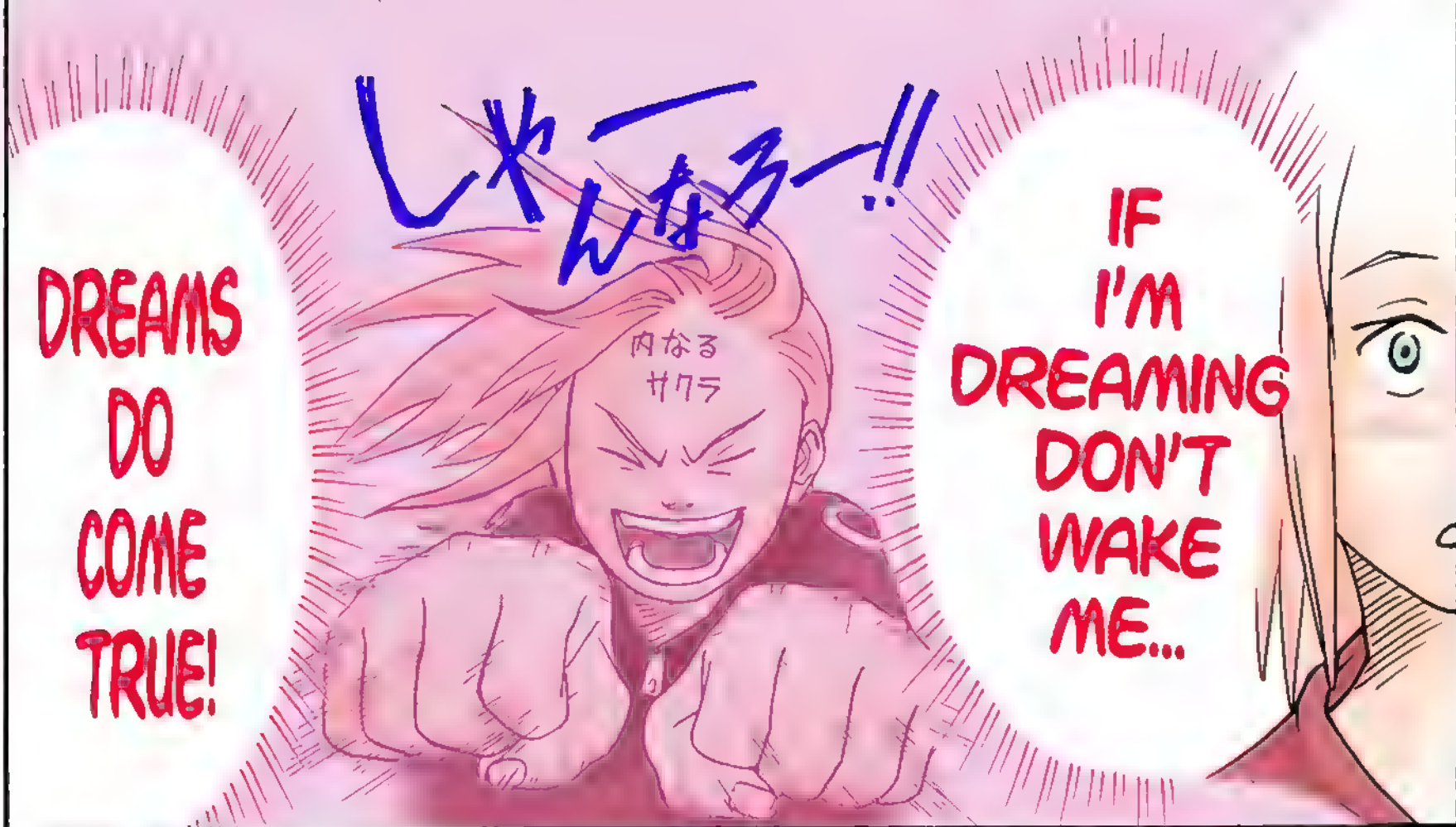


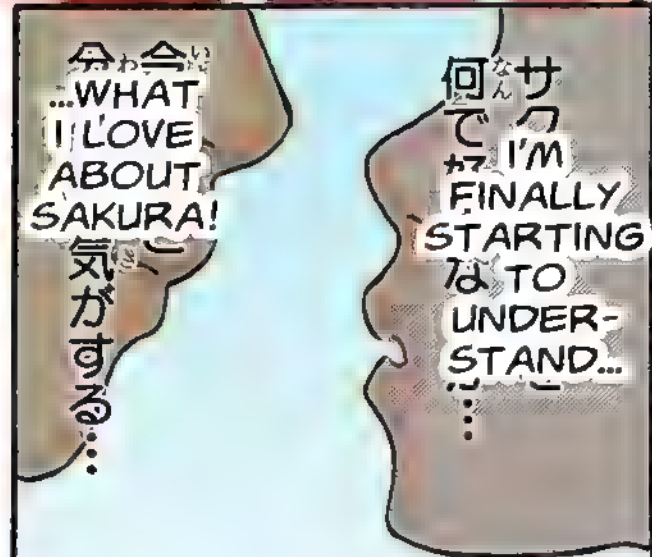
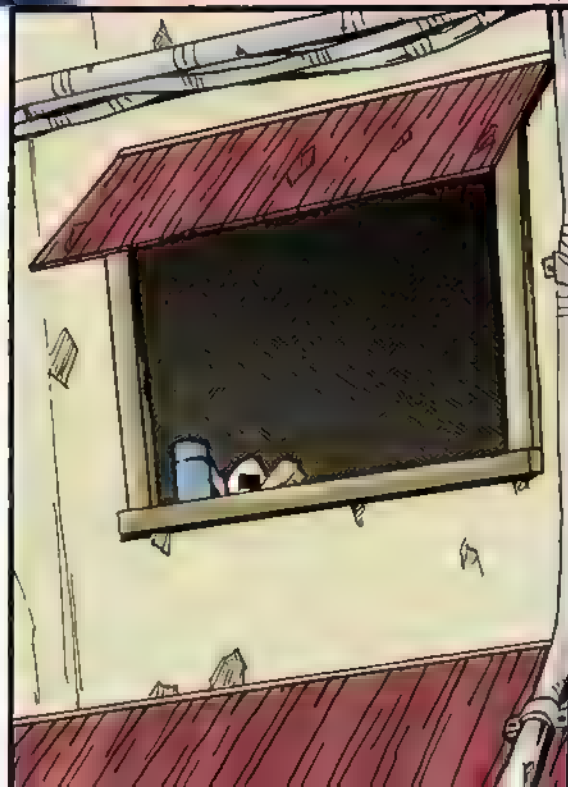
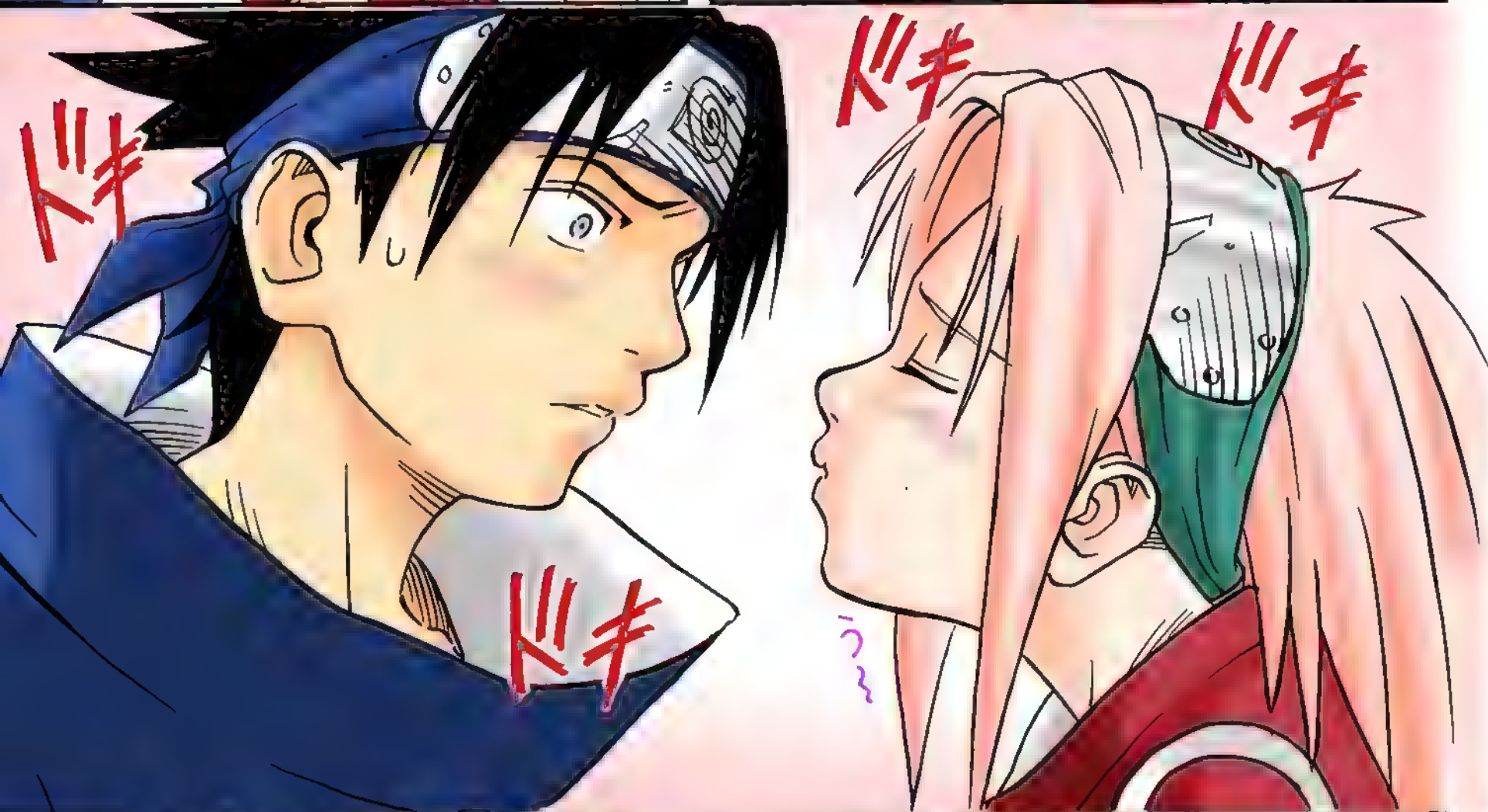
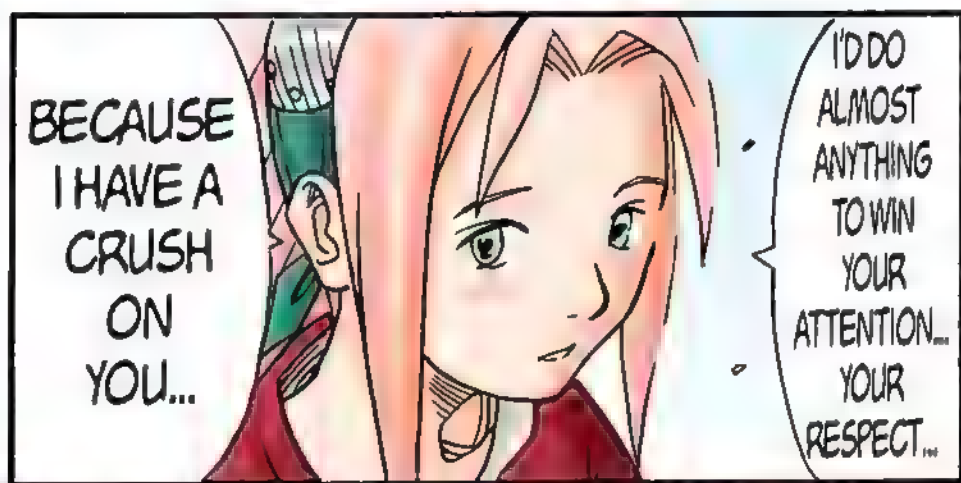
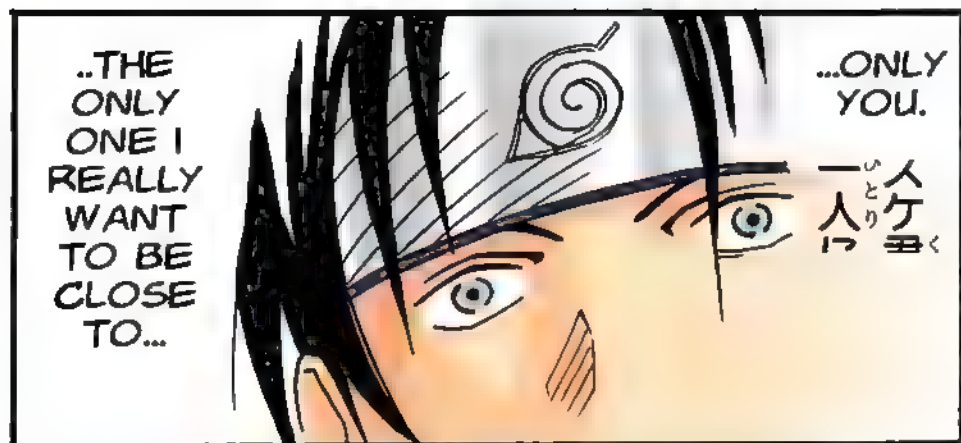
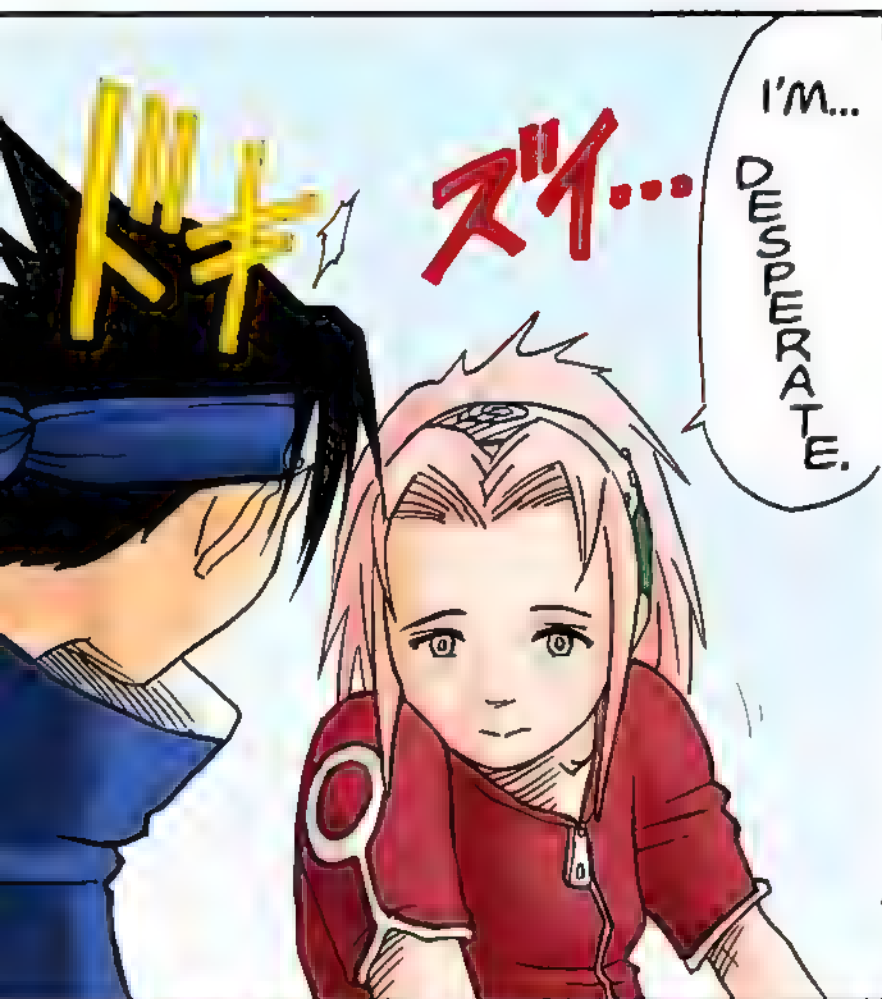
WITH BED-ROOM EYES! あんな

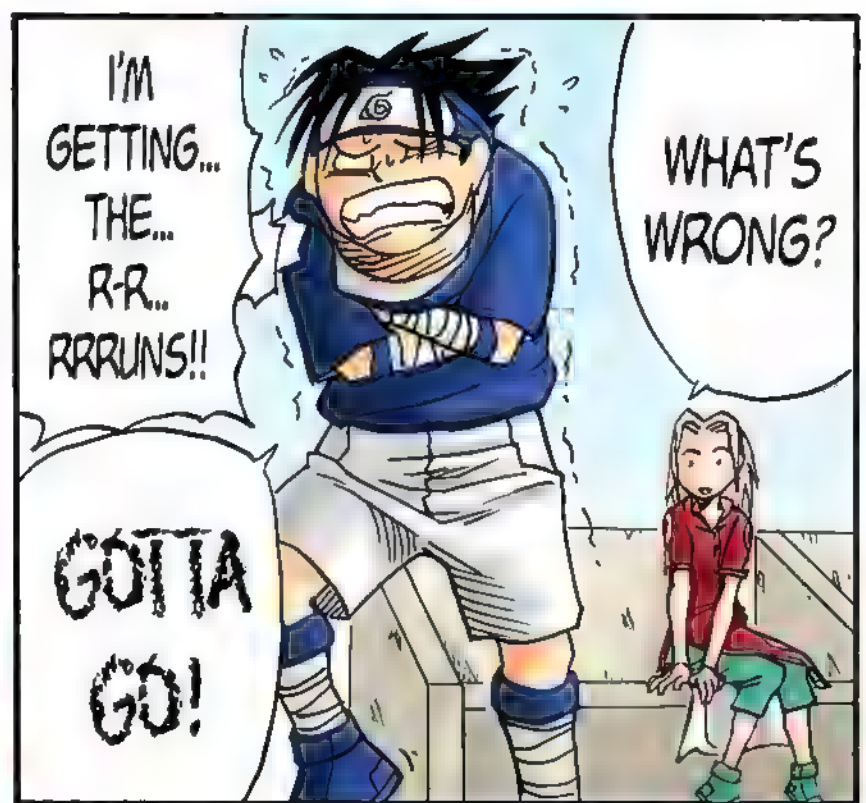
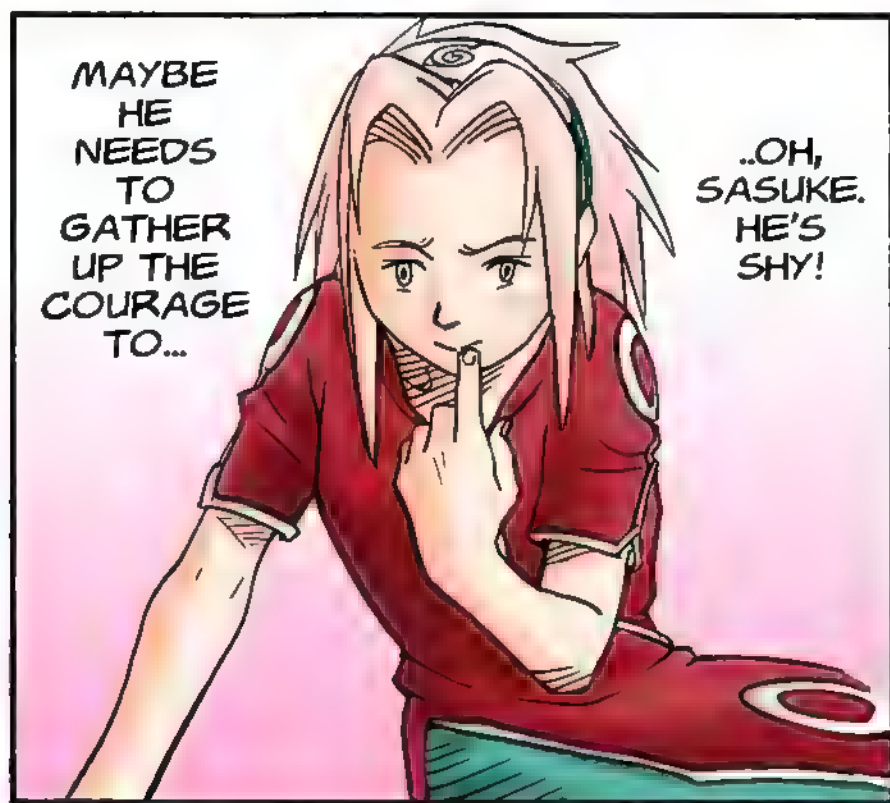
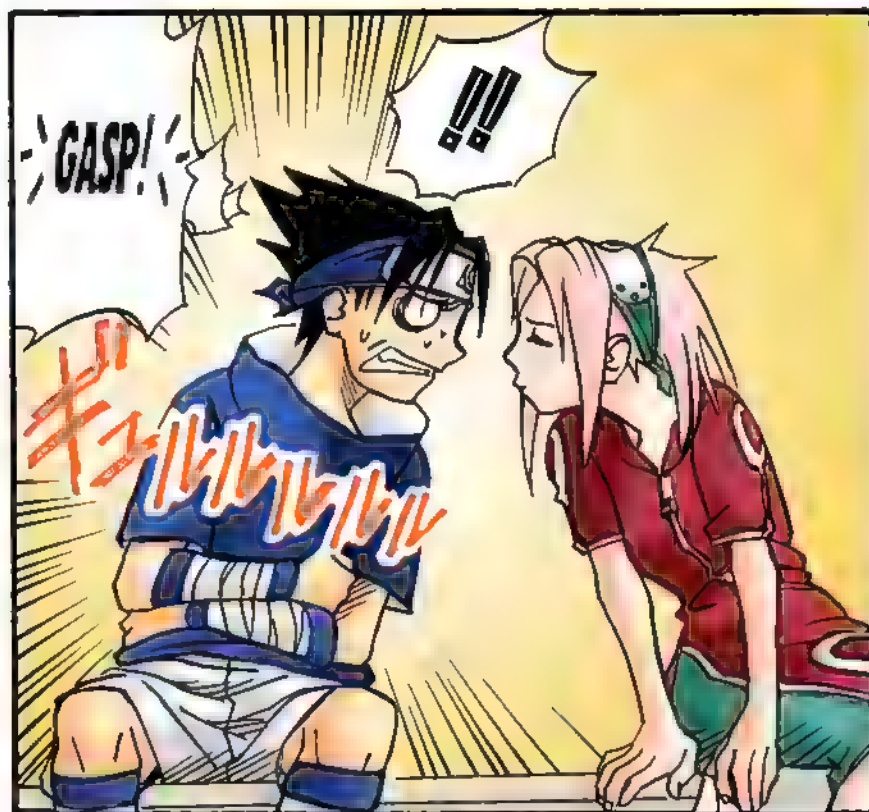
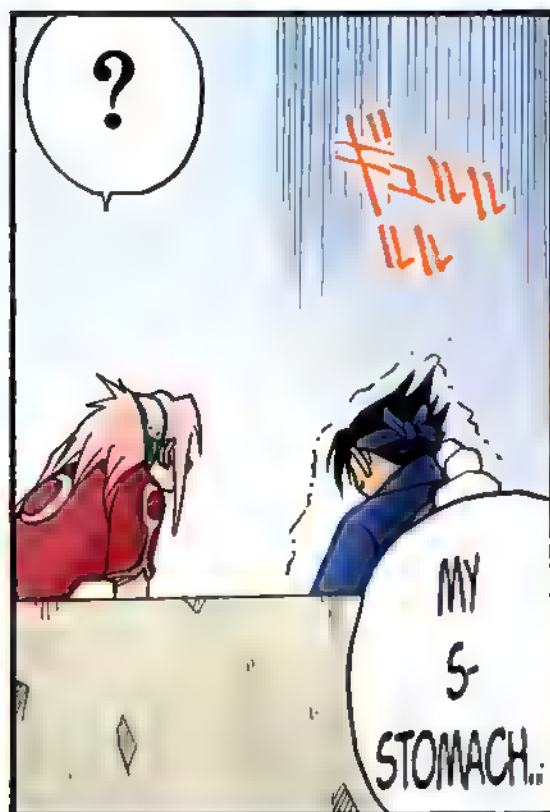


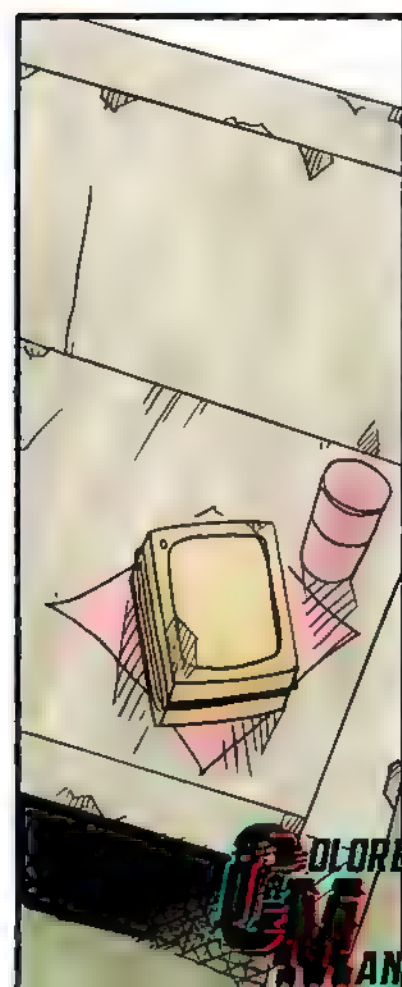
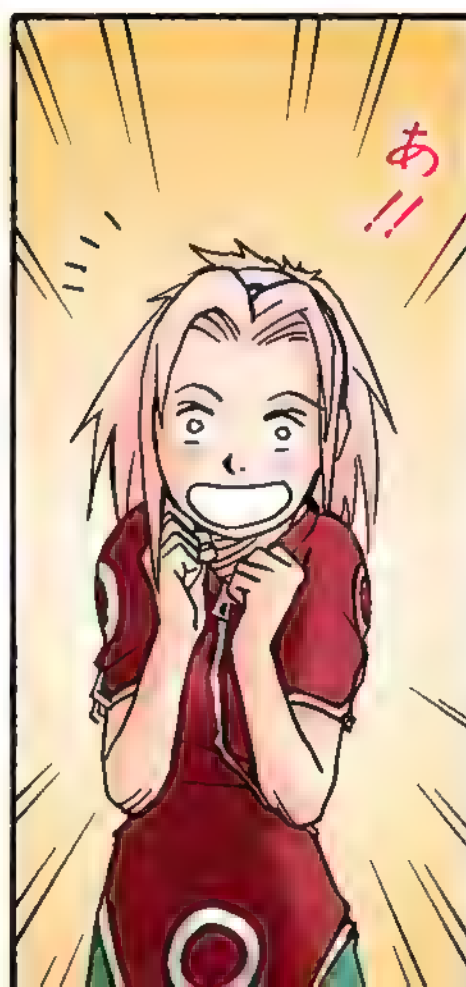
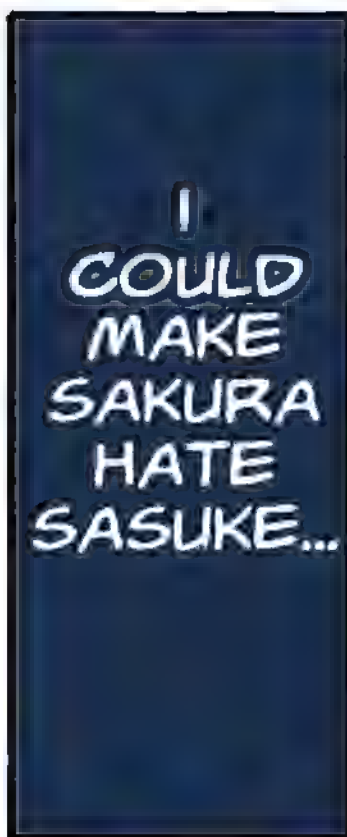
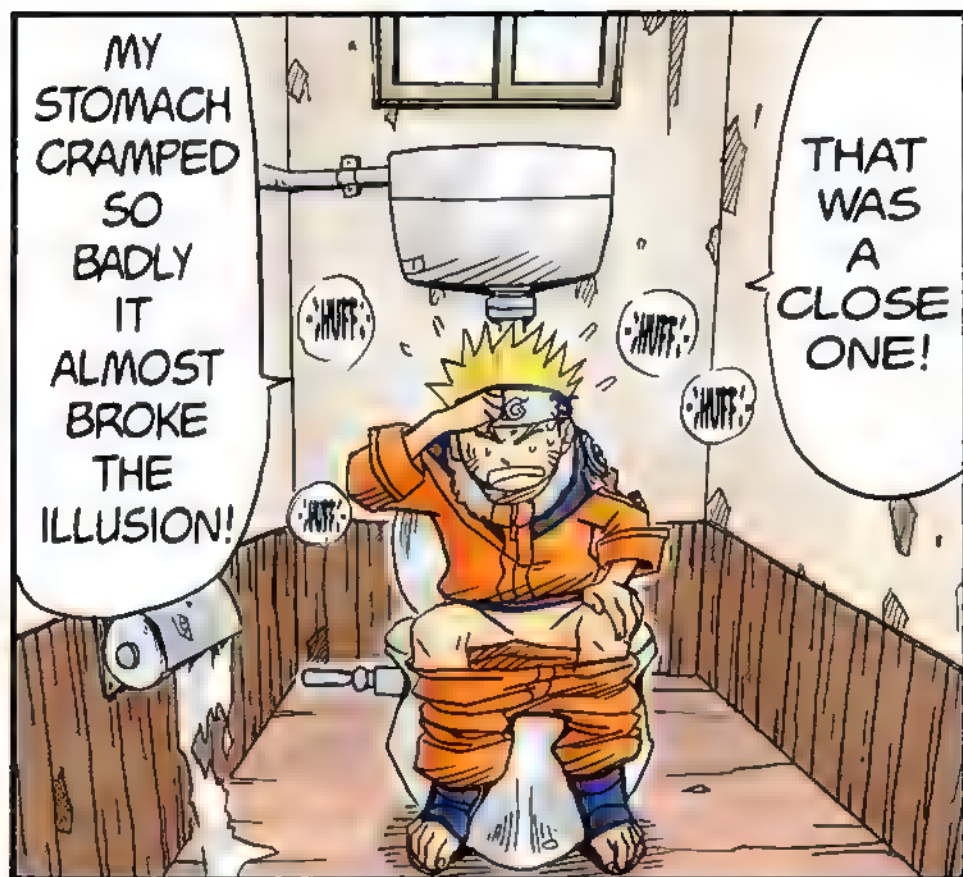
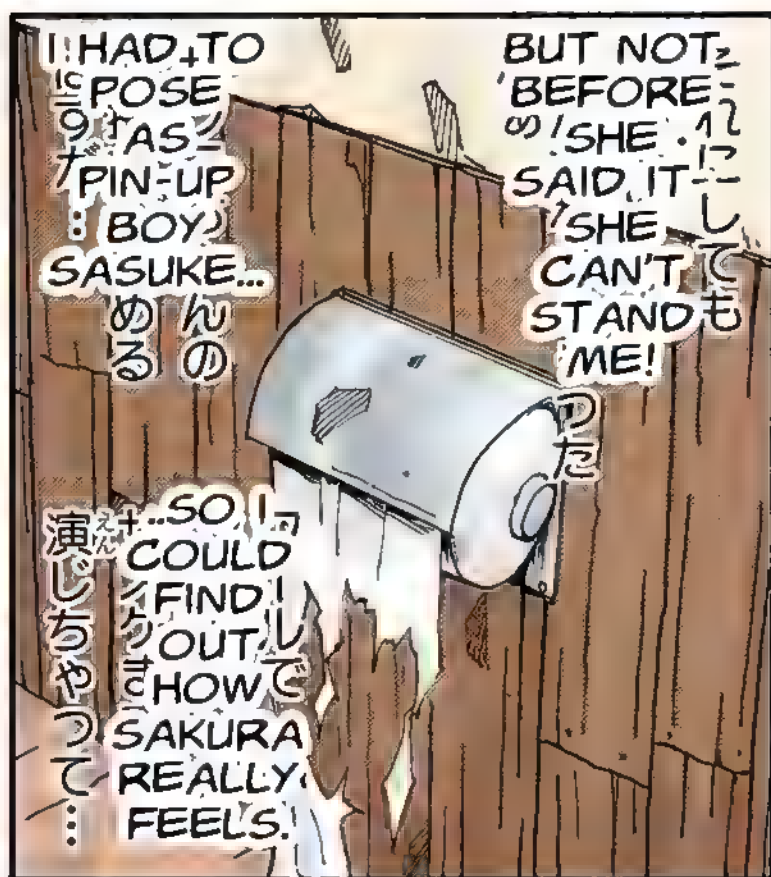
BUT IT IS! SASUKE- HE'S LOOKING AT ME!!

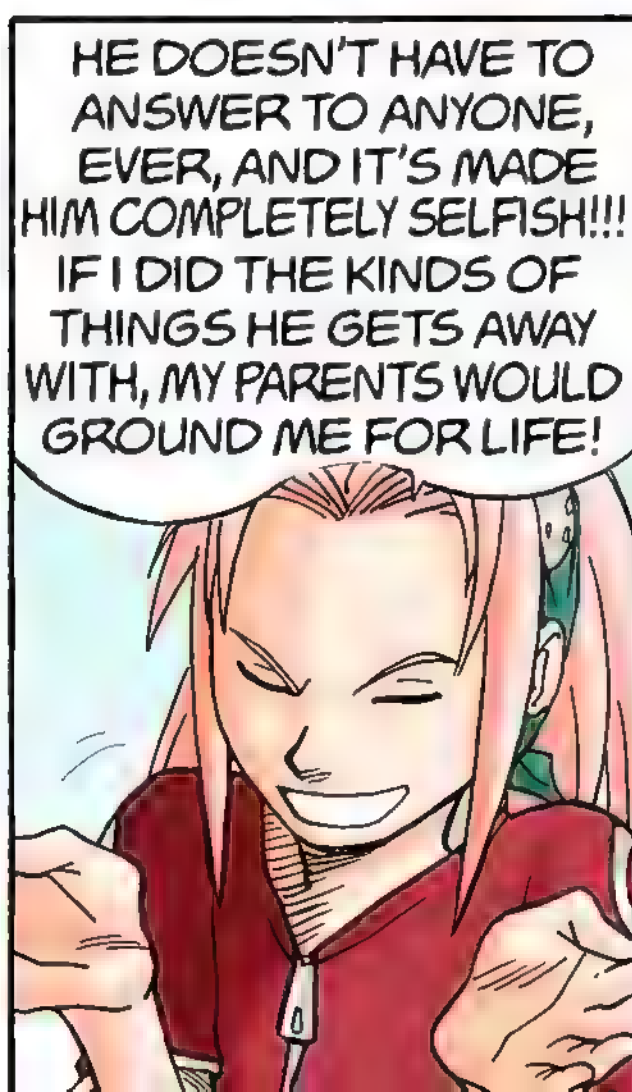
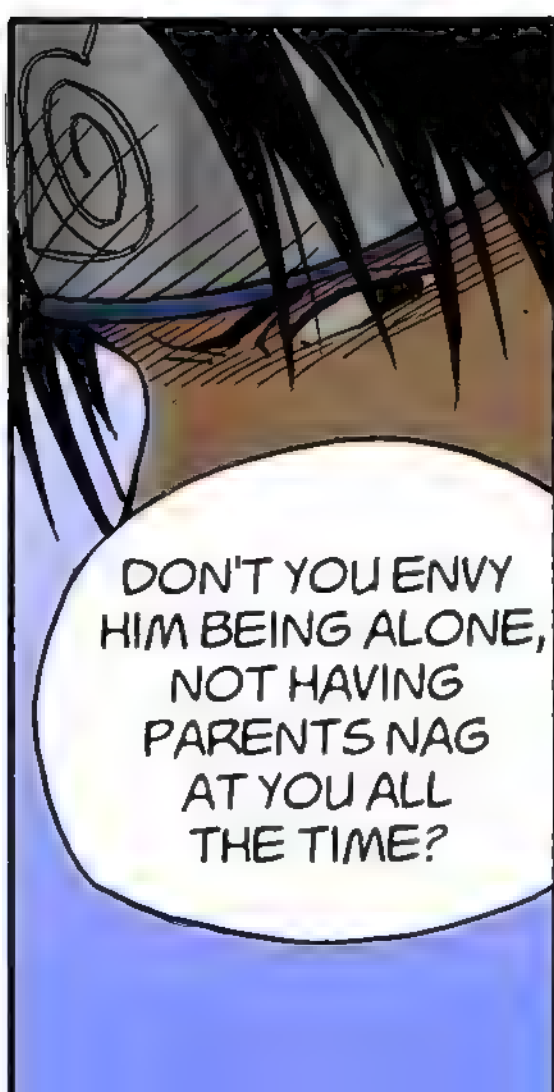
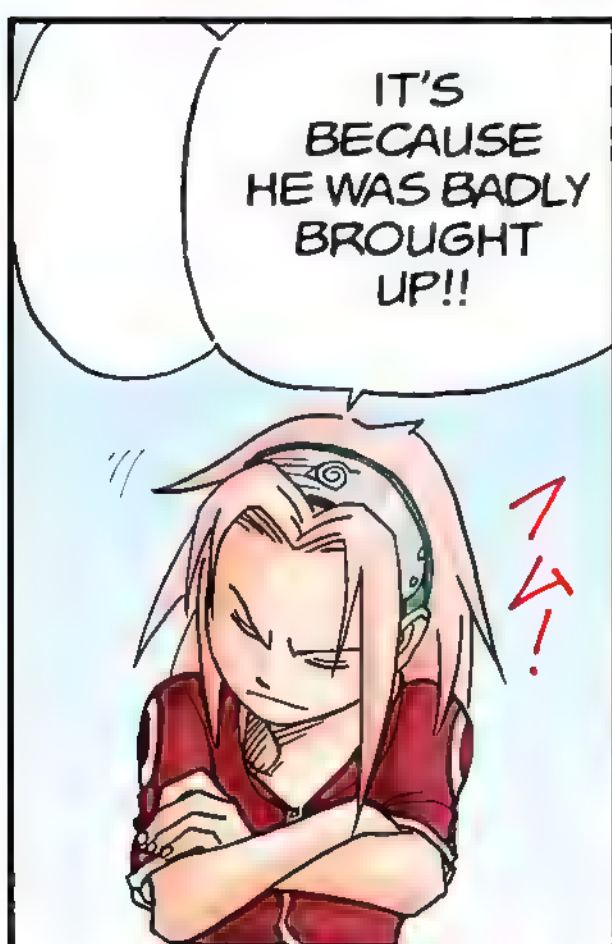
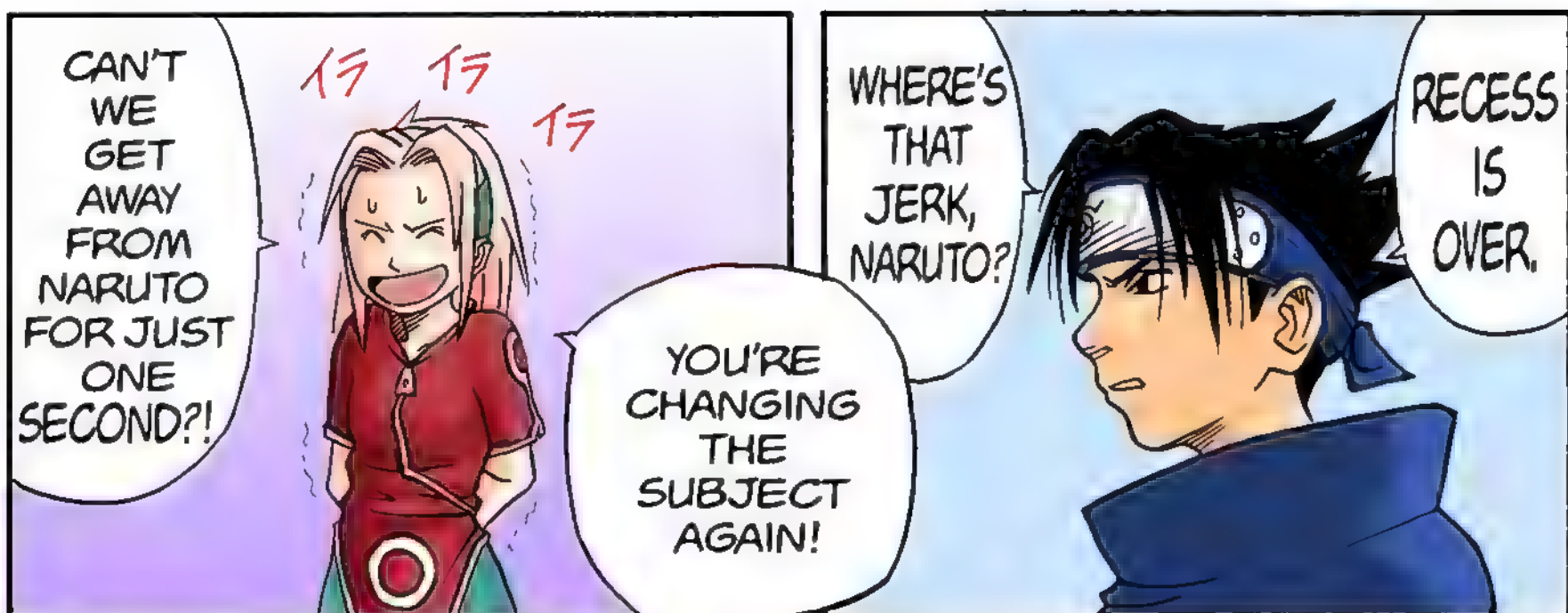


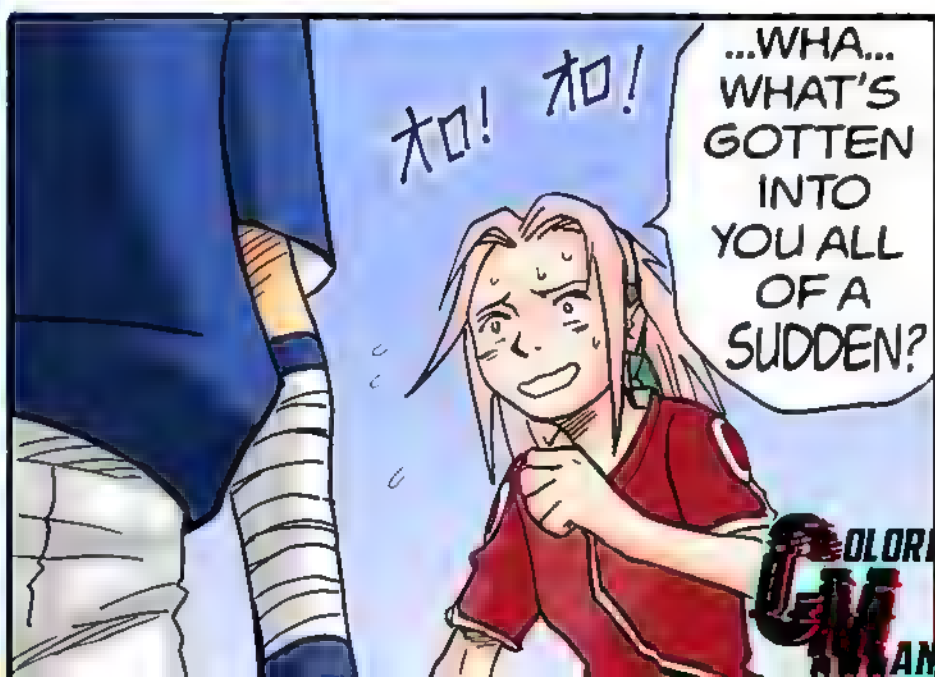
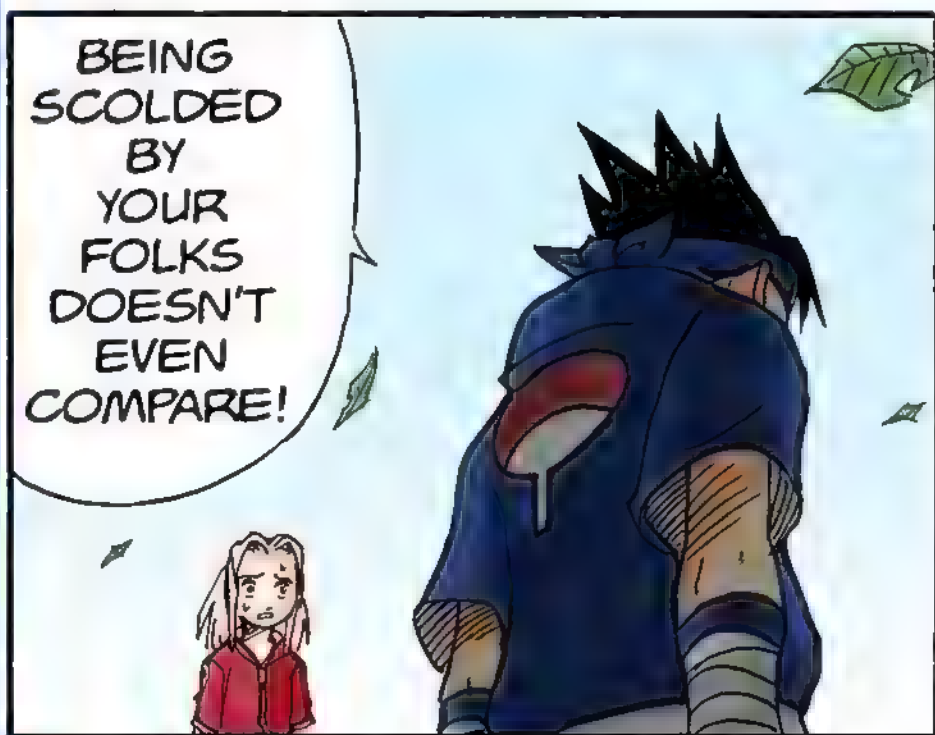
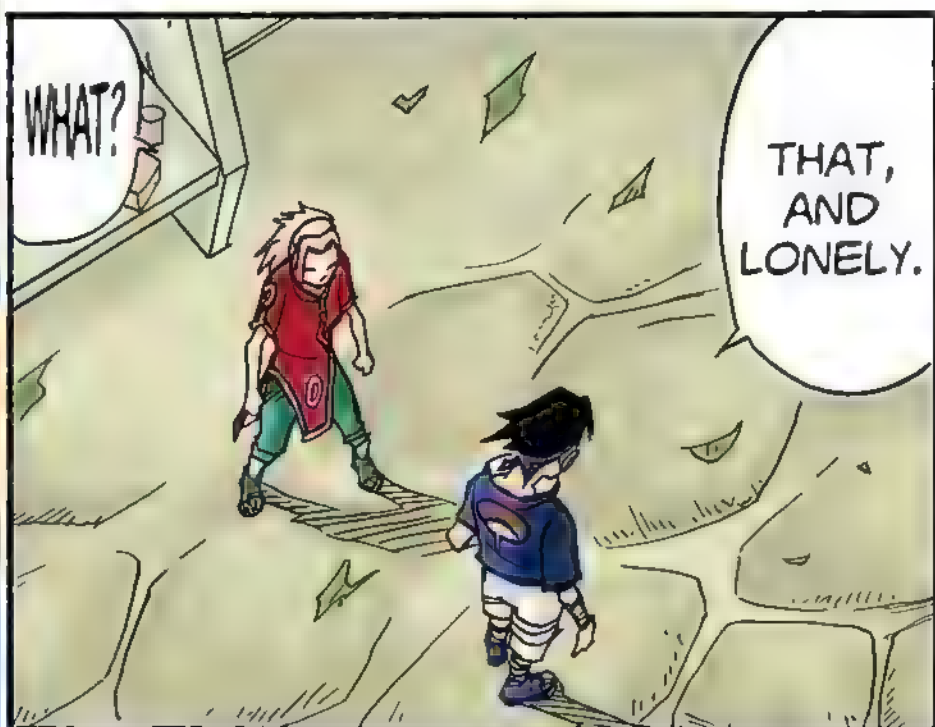
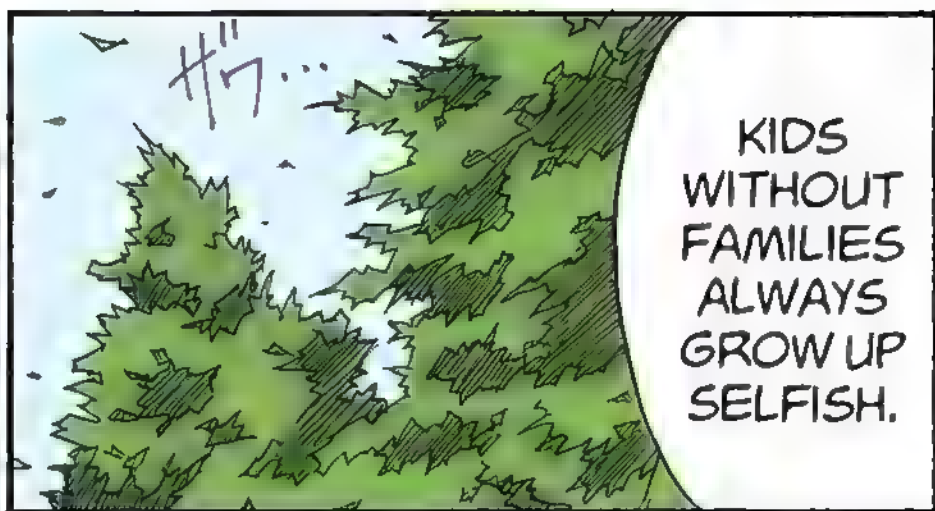


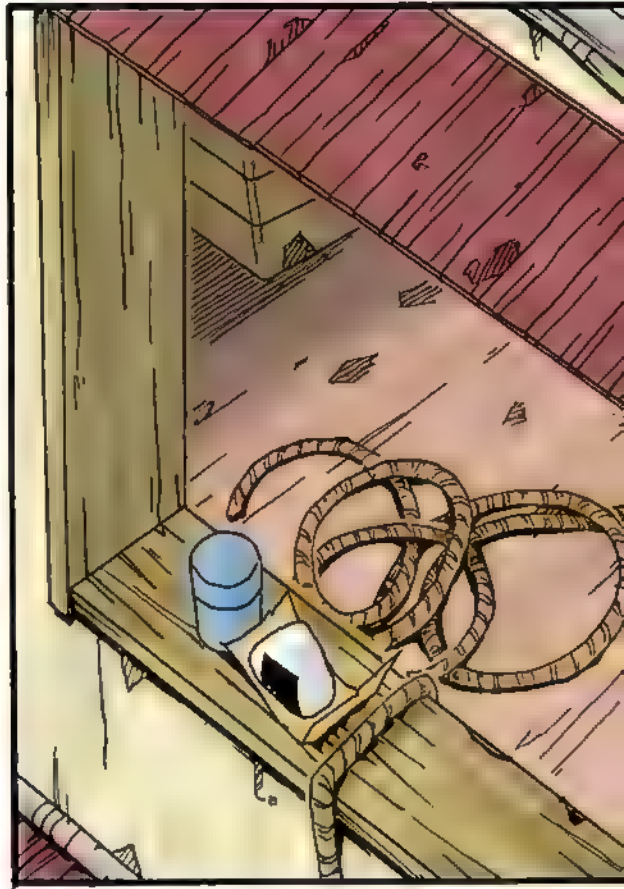
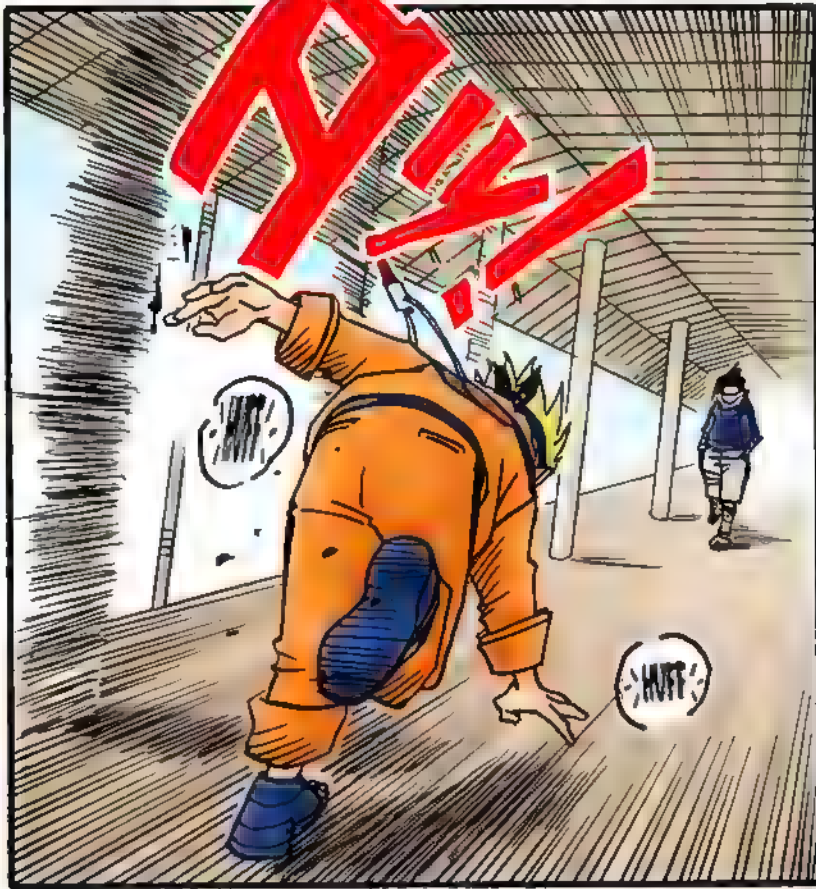
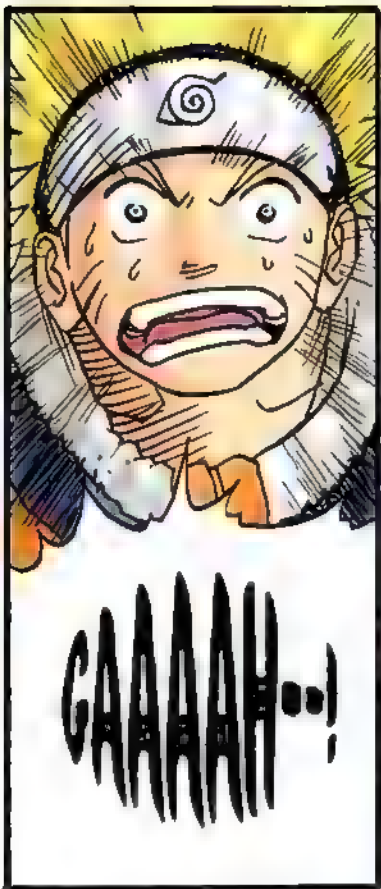
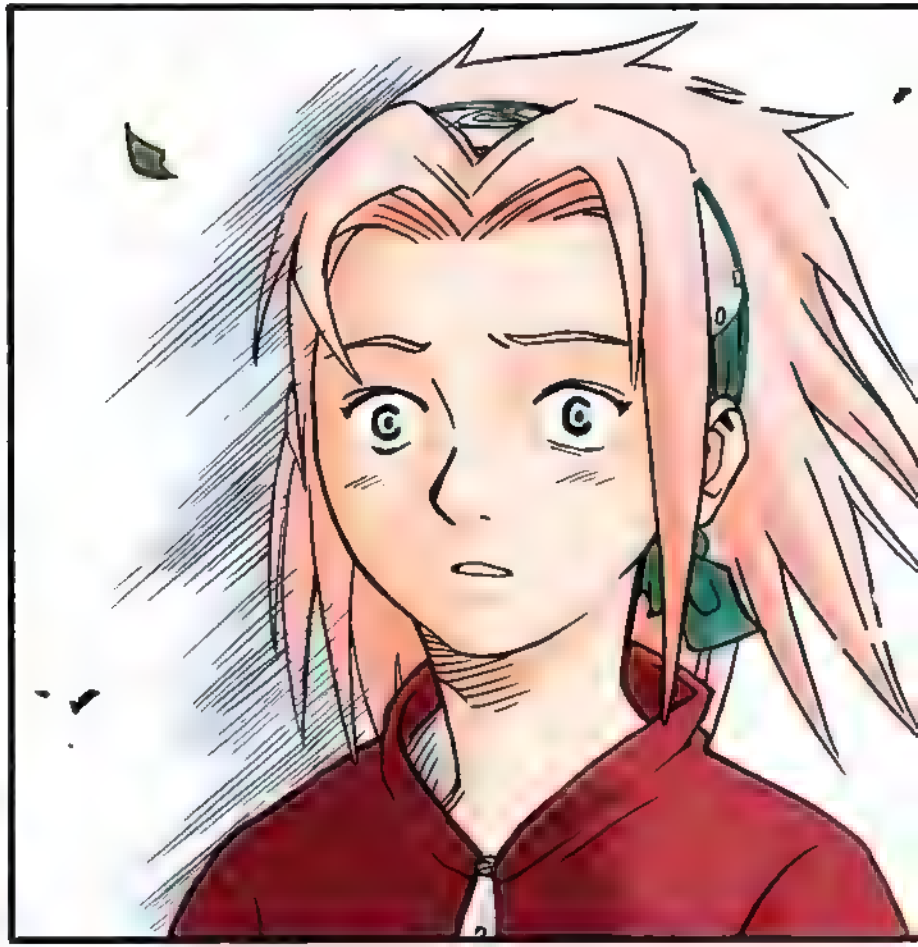
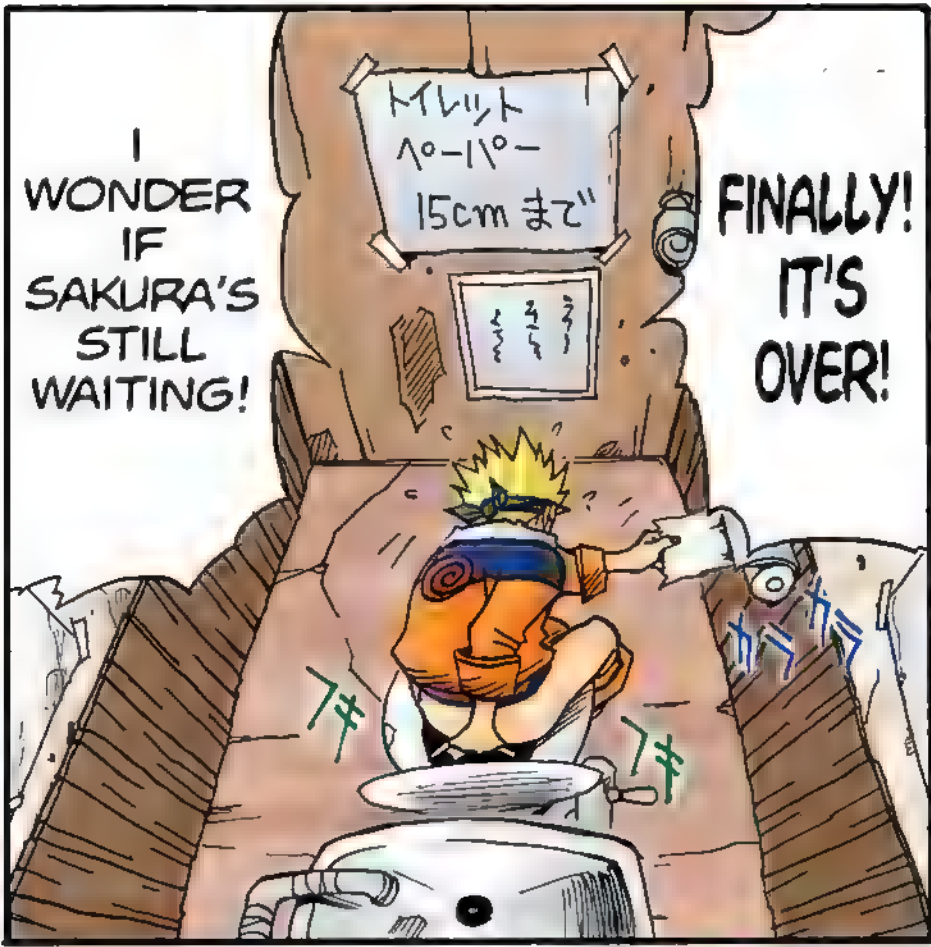


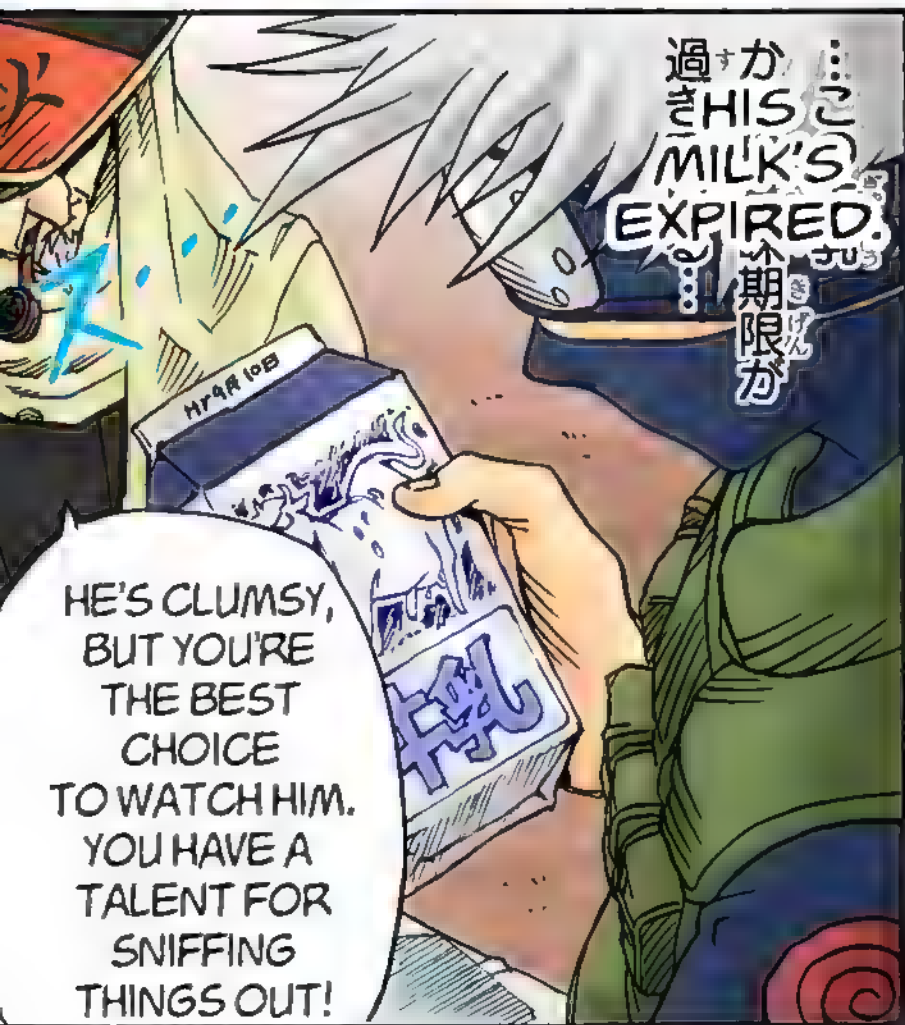
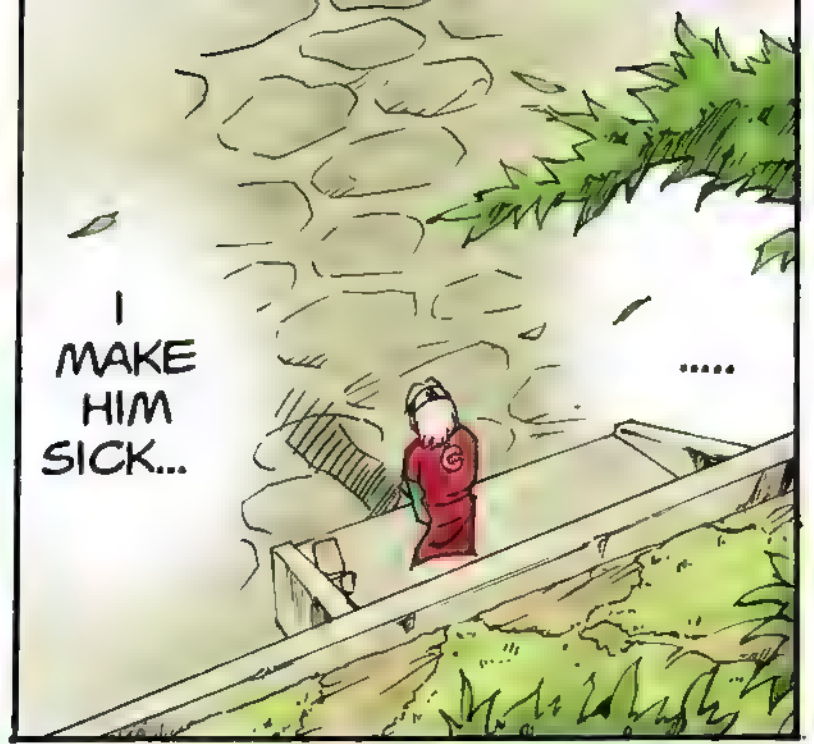
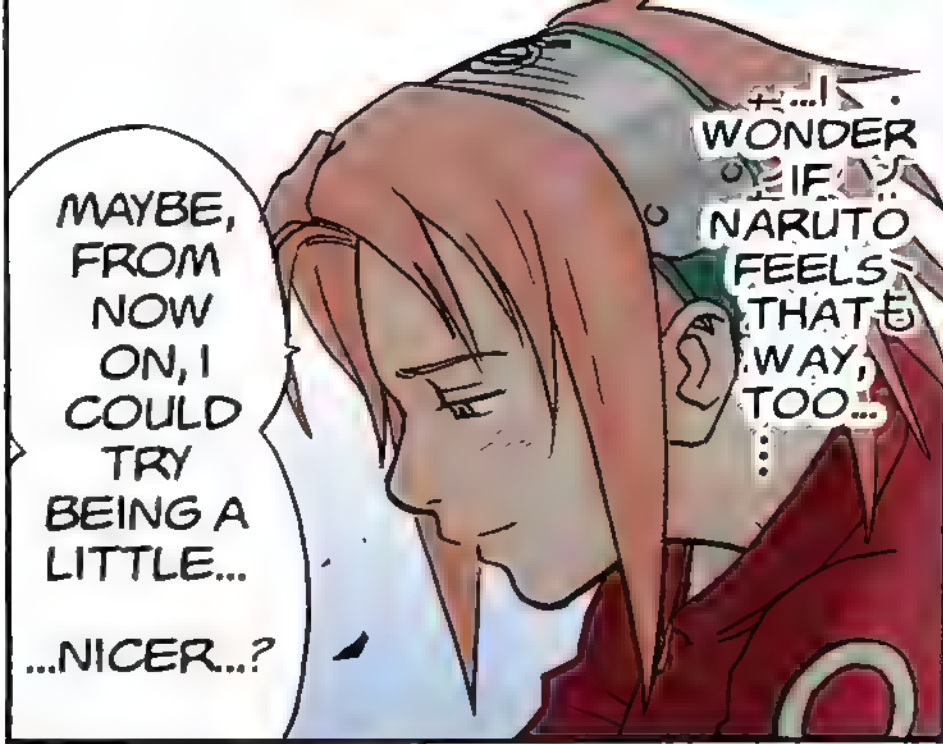












The picture on the right is from Karakuri ("mechanism"), the first story I submitted to Weekly Shonen Jump. Karakuri won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists, which allowed me to get picked up by my current editor and helped me begin my journey down the road of a manga artist. It's a manga that brings back a lot of memories for me. But, man, the hero sure does have intensely terrifying eyes.

The picture on the right is another one from the first manga I published in Weekly Shonen Jump...that's right, Karakuri! But when the reader polls came in, its popularity was rock bottom! Still, this manga also brings back a lot of memories for me.



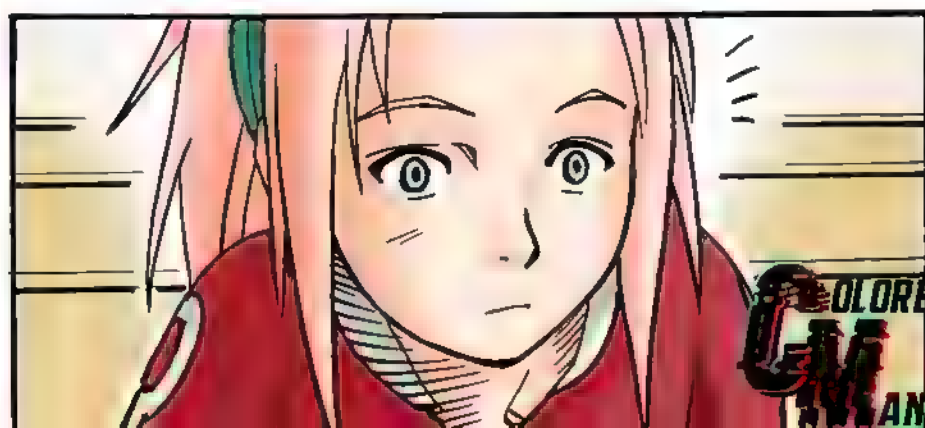
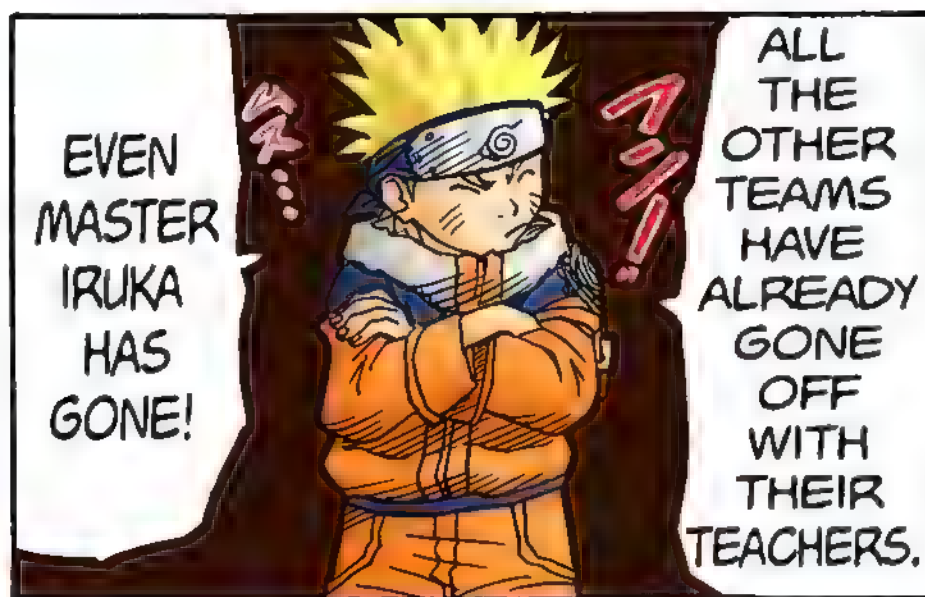
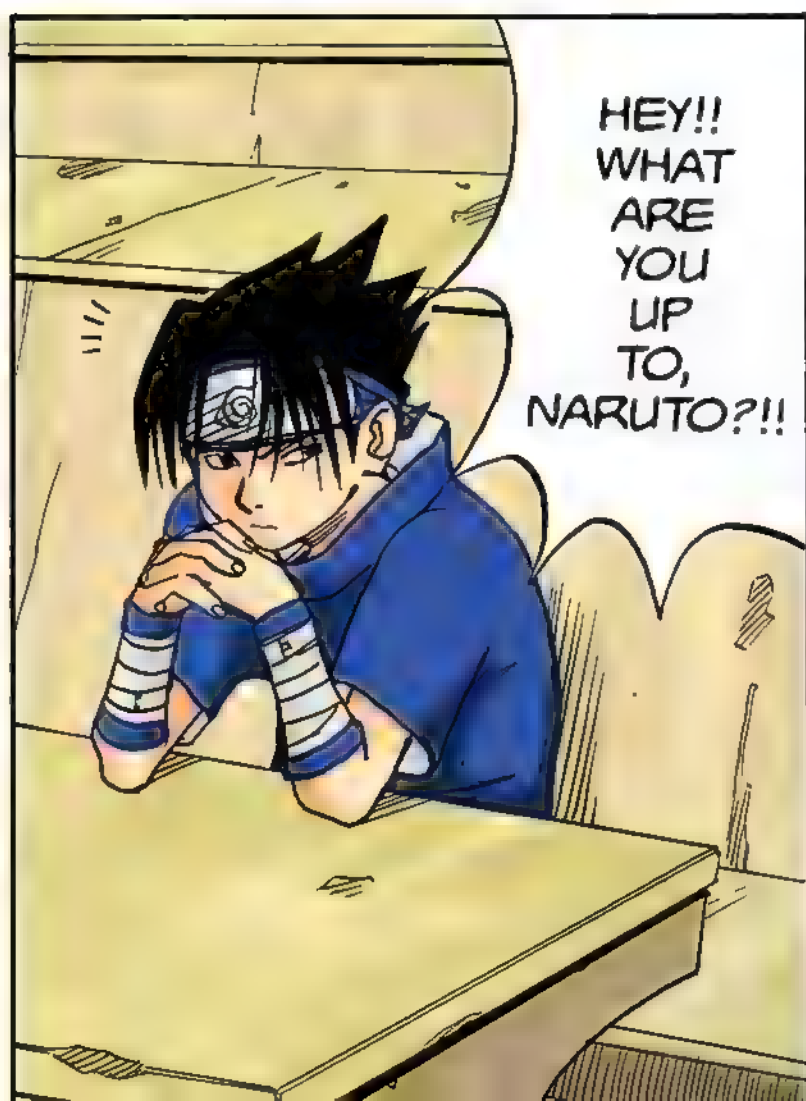
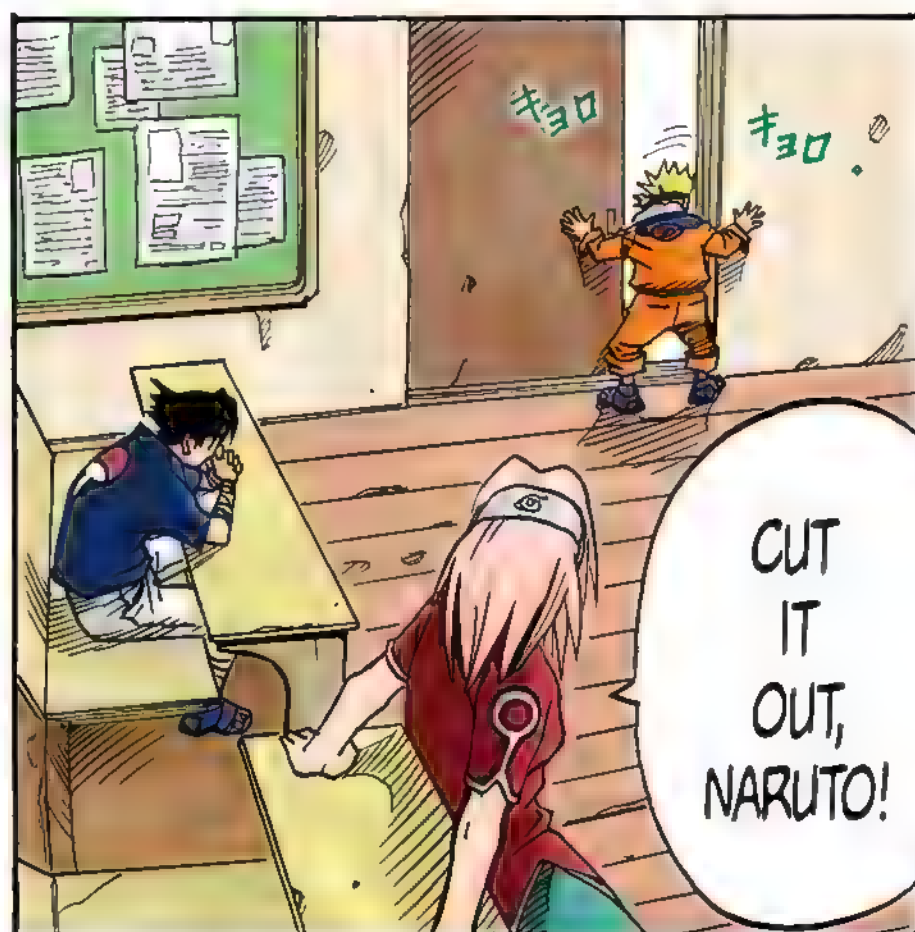
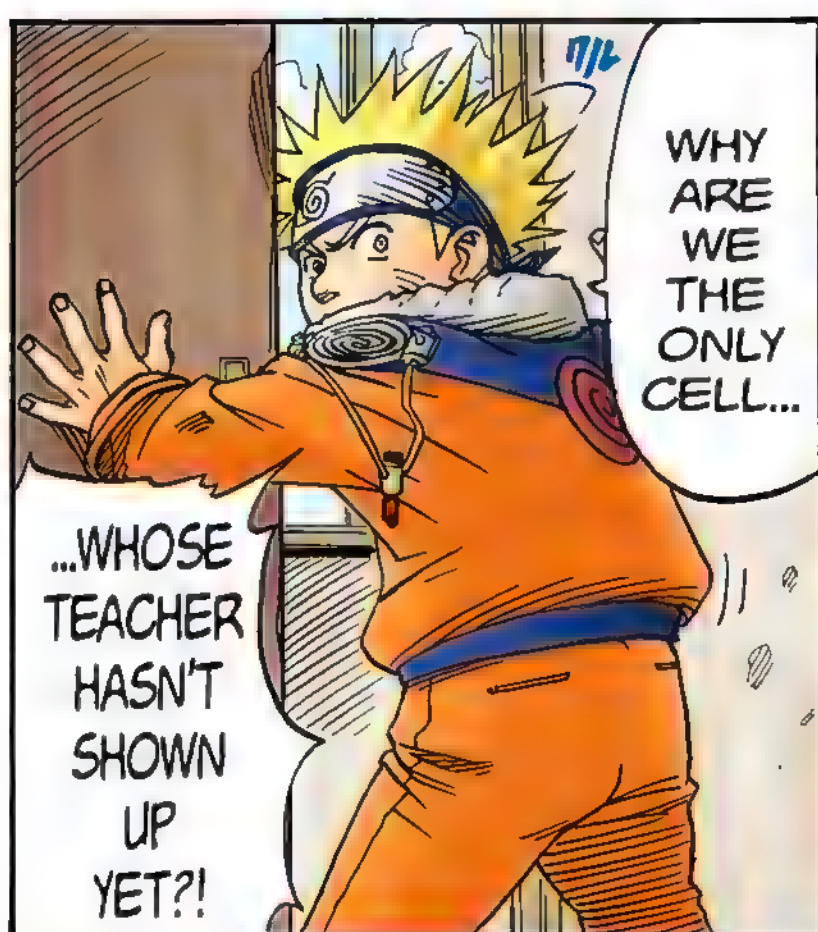
ナンバー

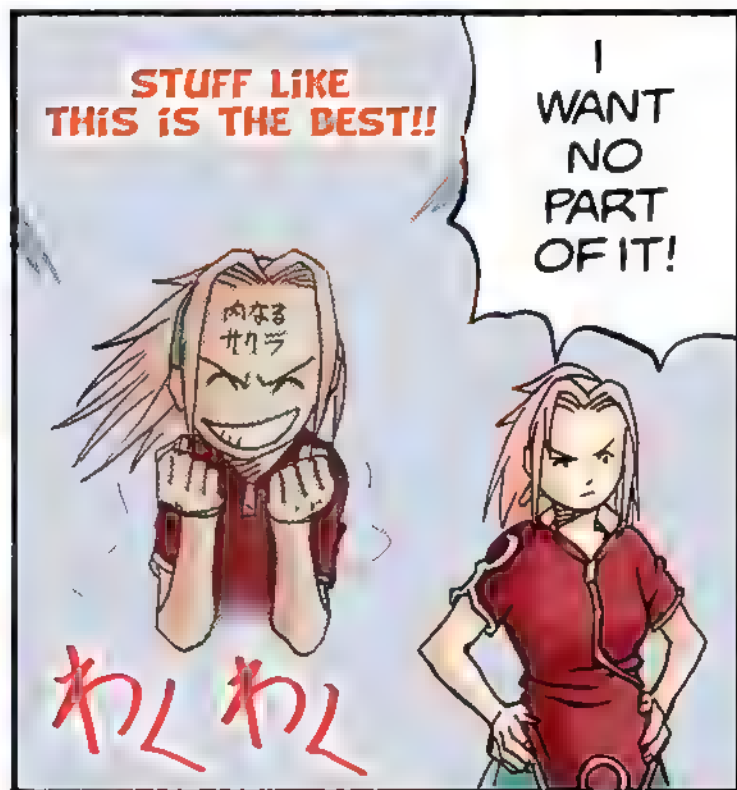
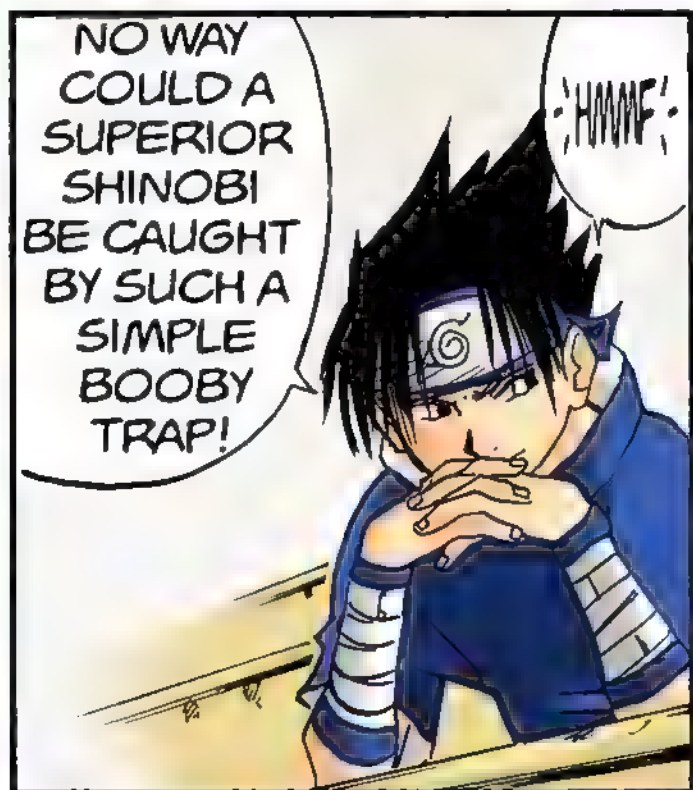
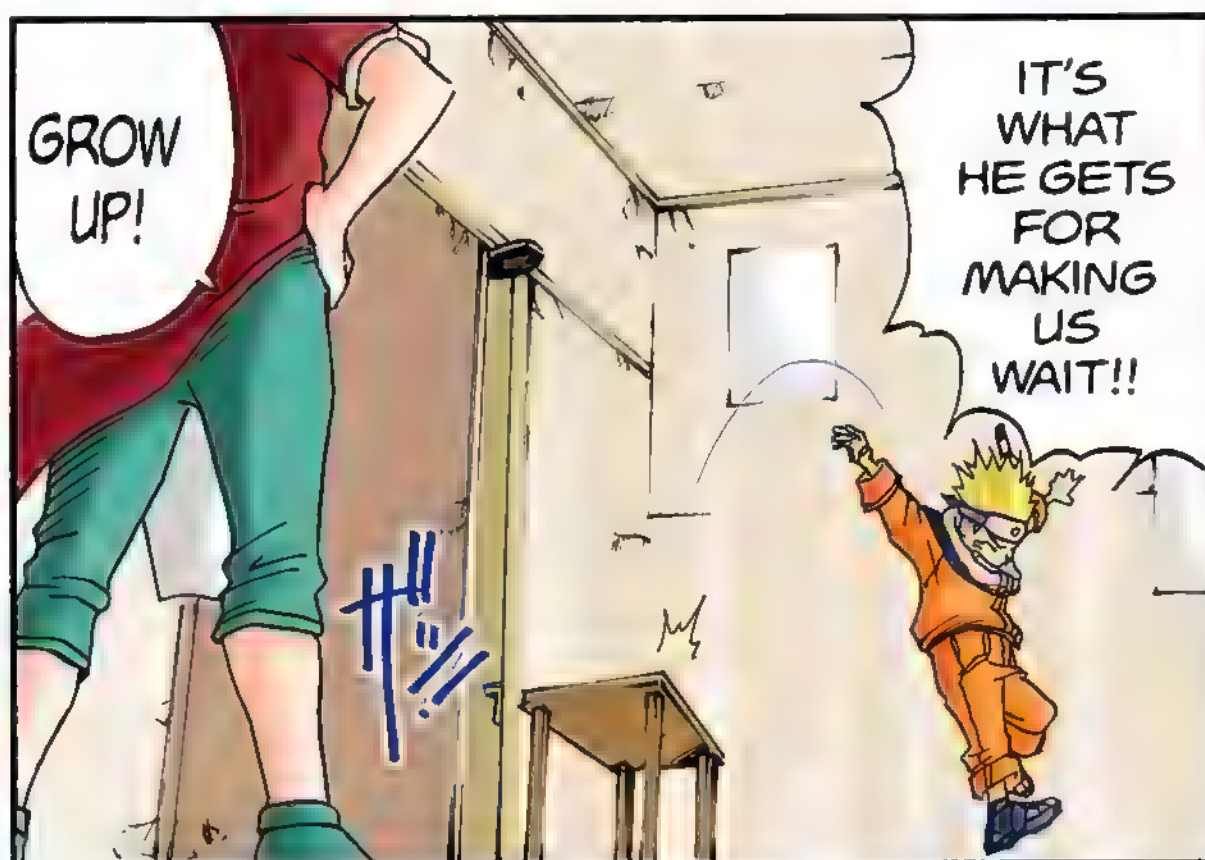
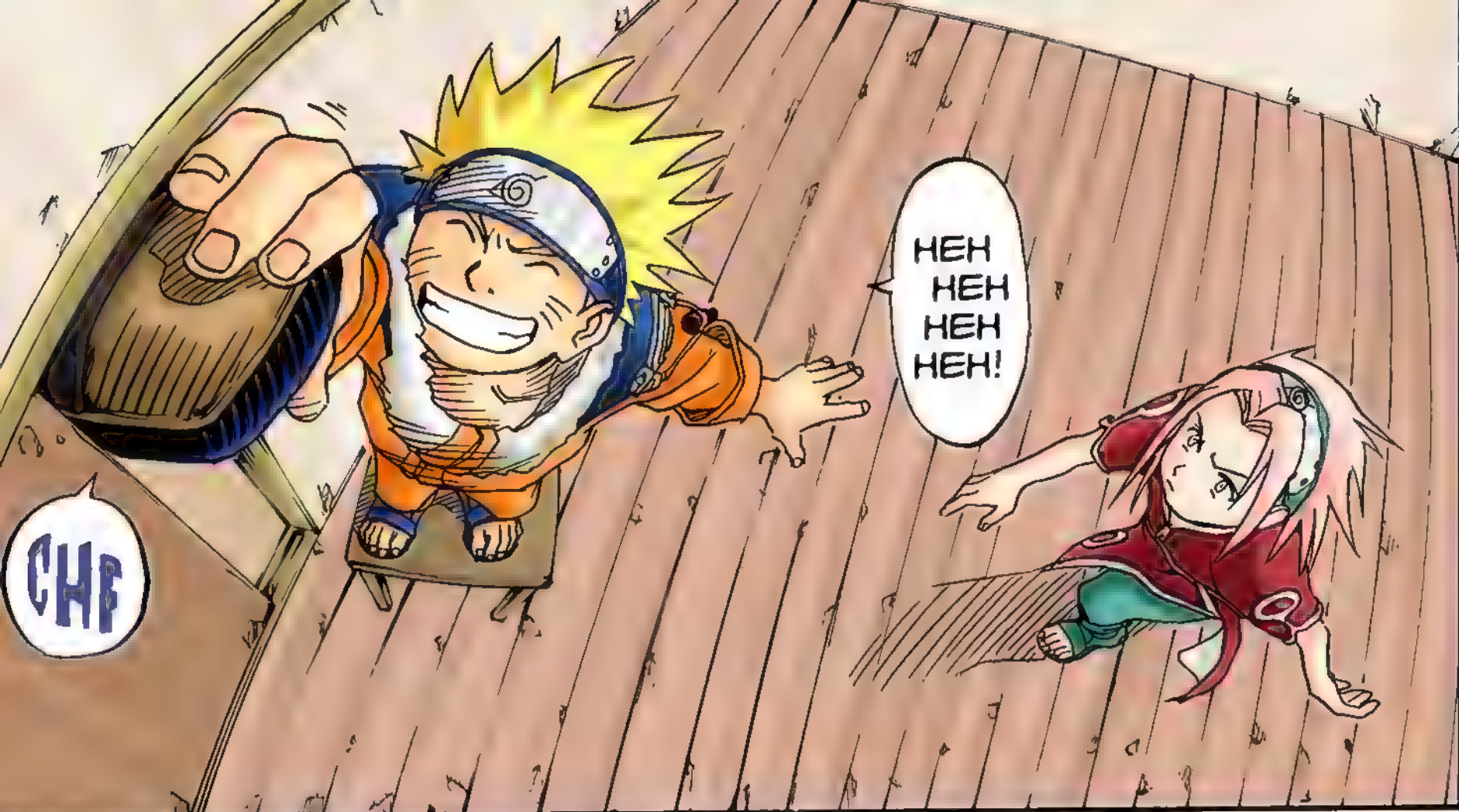


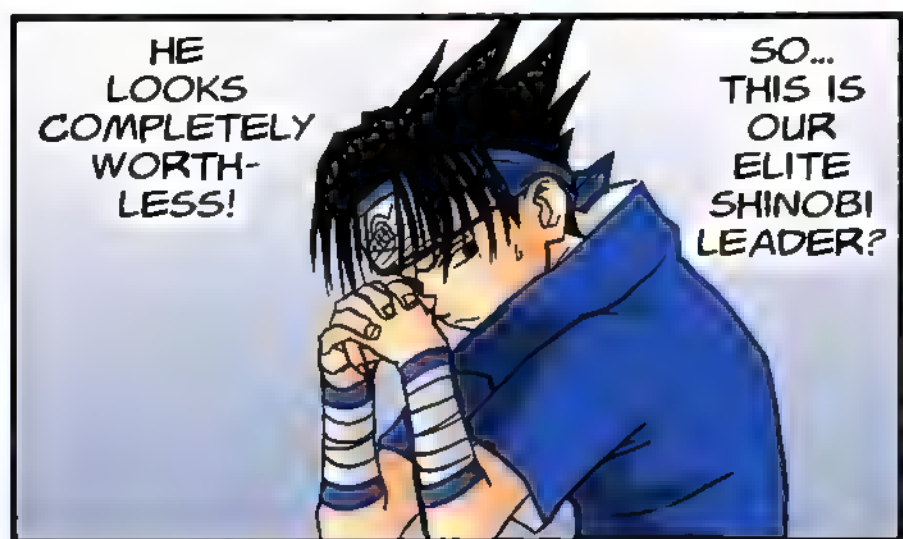
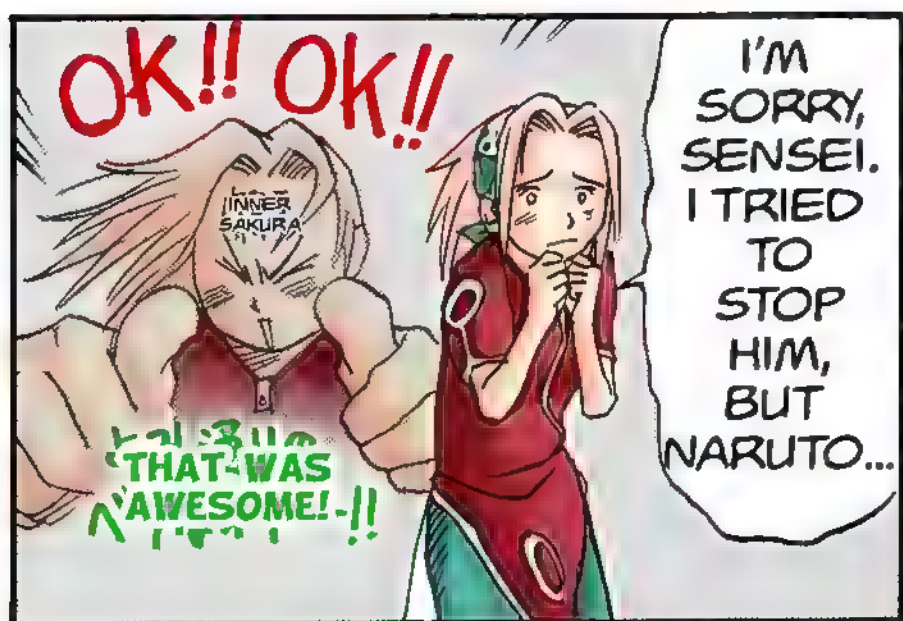
4 : HATAKE KAKASHI!!

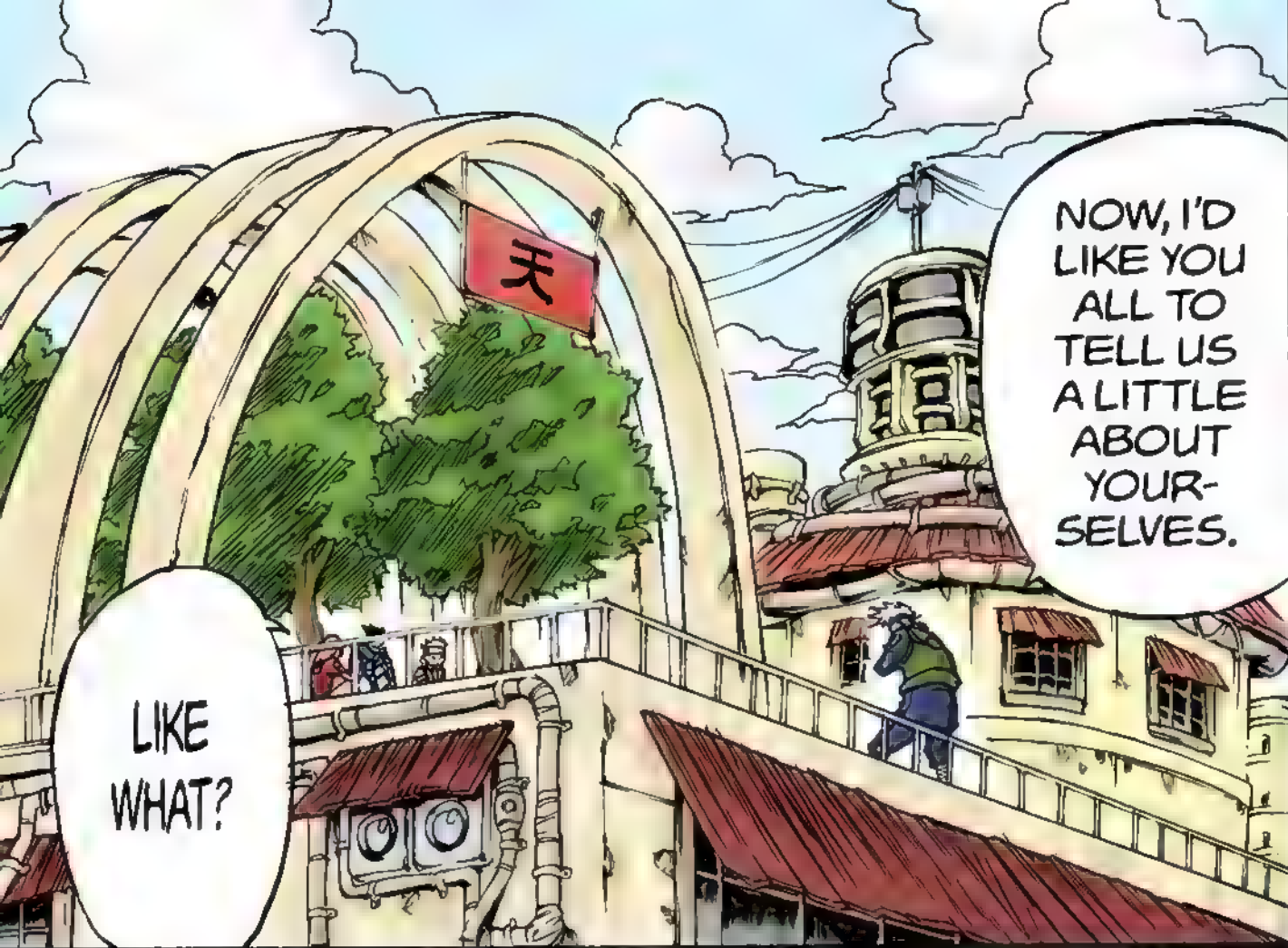
はたけカカシ!!





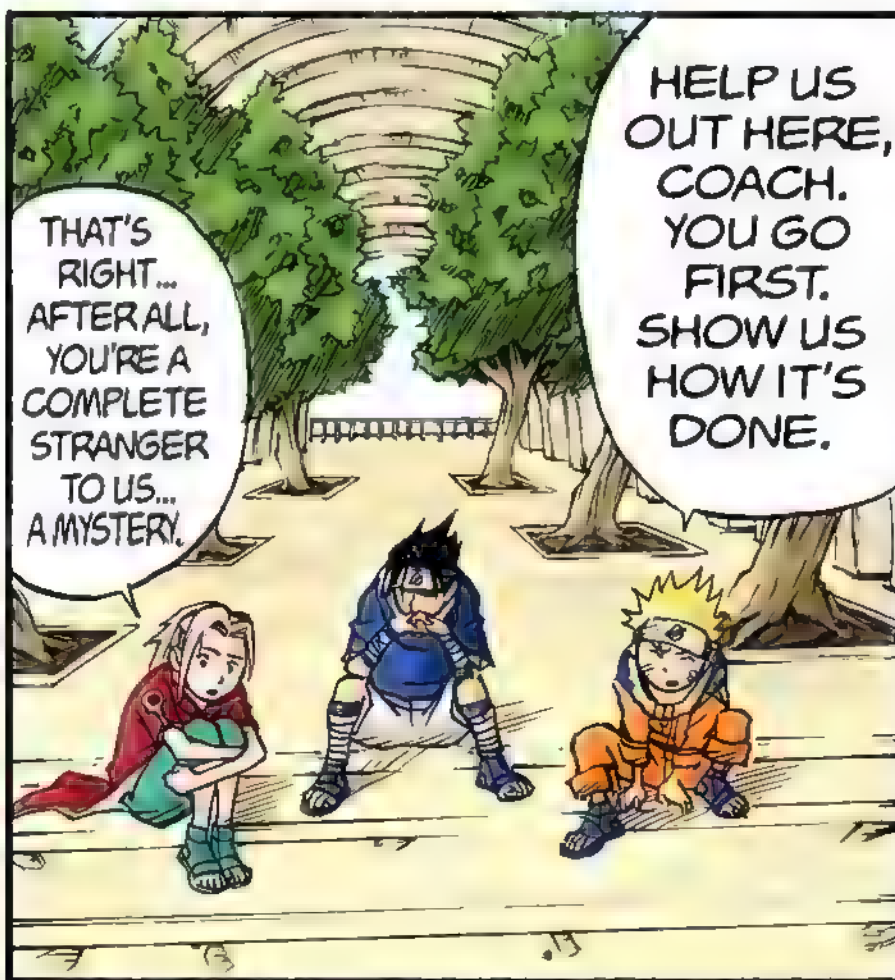
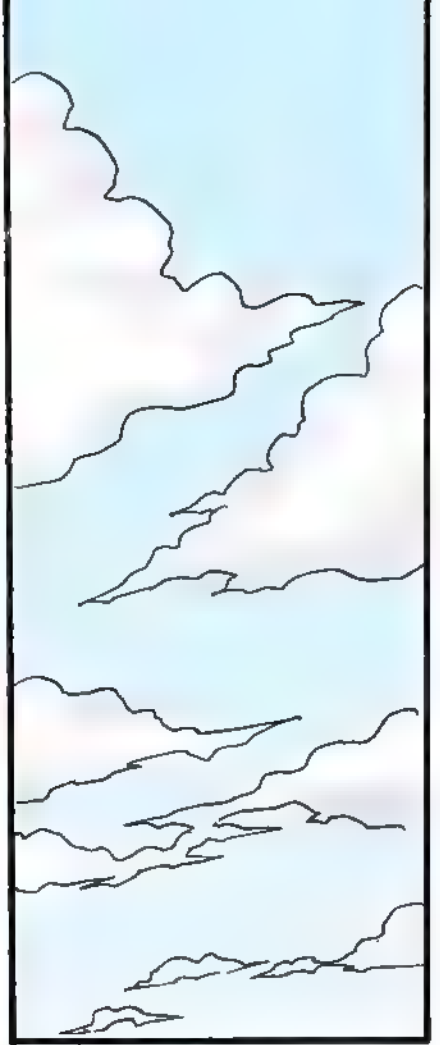






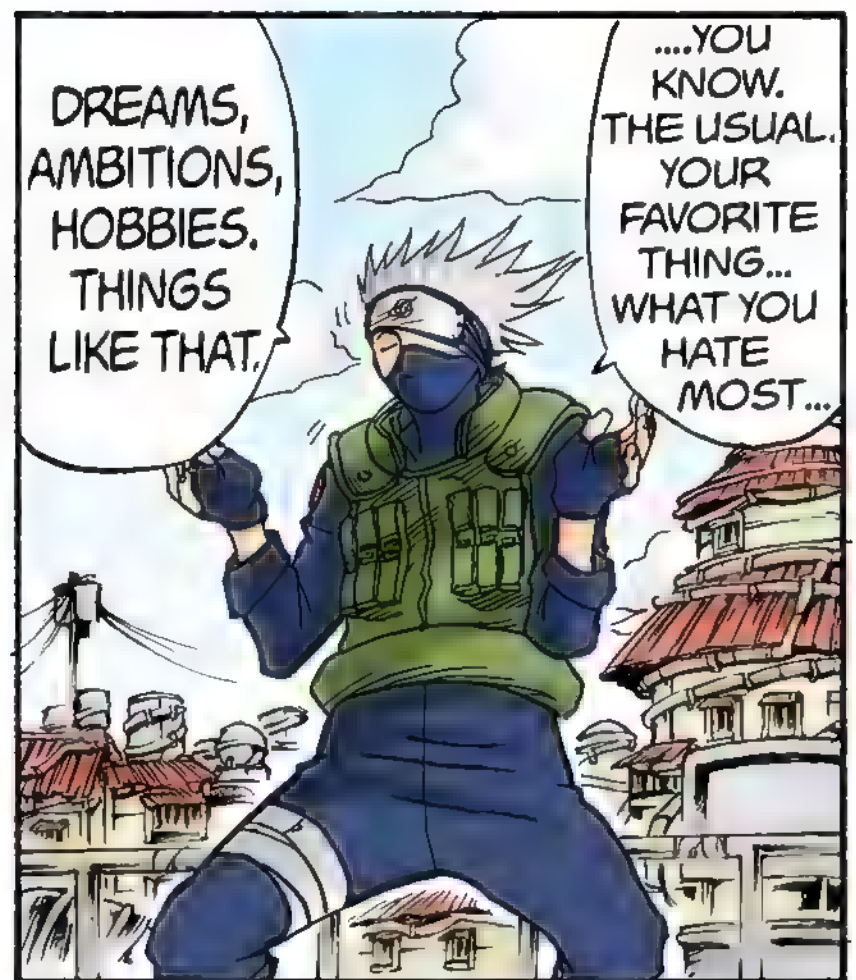
LIKE
WHAT?

NOW, I'D
LIKE YOU
ALL TO
TELL US
A LITTLE
ABOUT
YOUR-
SELVES.



THAT'S
RIGHT...
AFTER ALL,
YOU'RE A
COMPLETE
STRANGER
TO US...
A MYSTERY.

HELP US
OUT HERE,
COACH.
YOU GO
FIRST.
SHOW US
HOW IT'S
DONE.



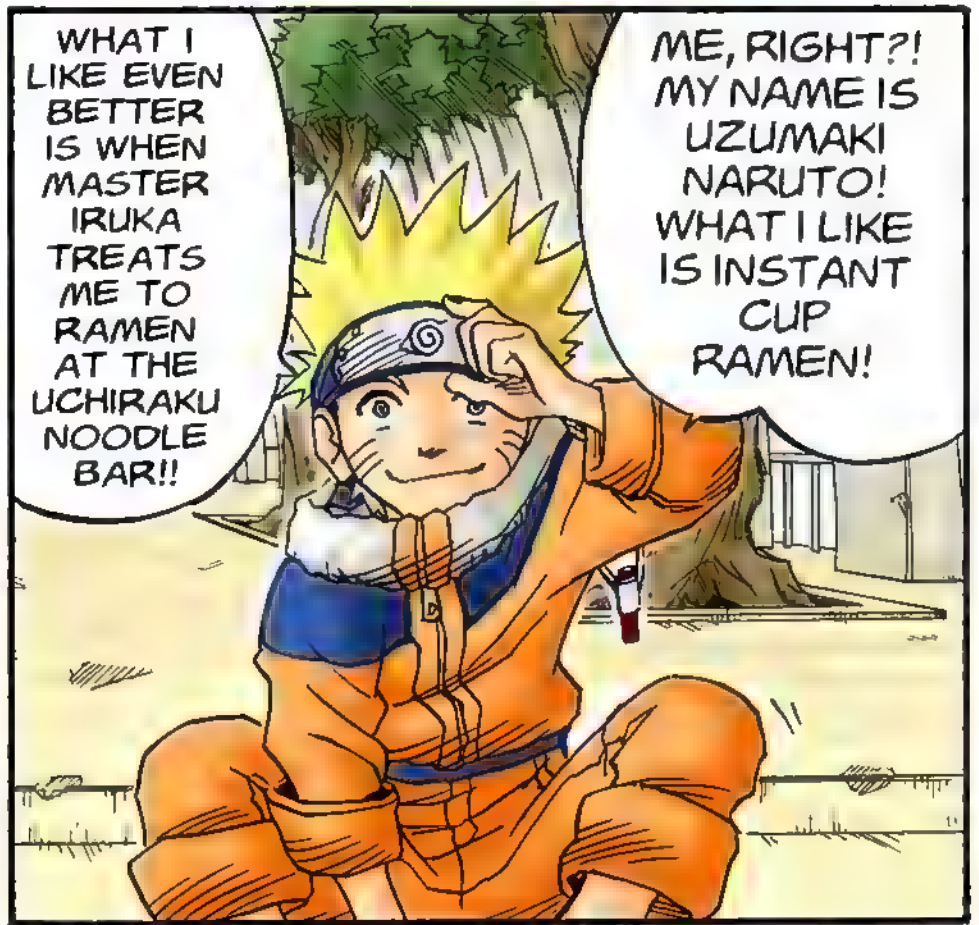
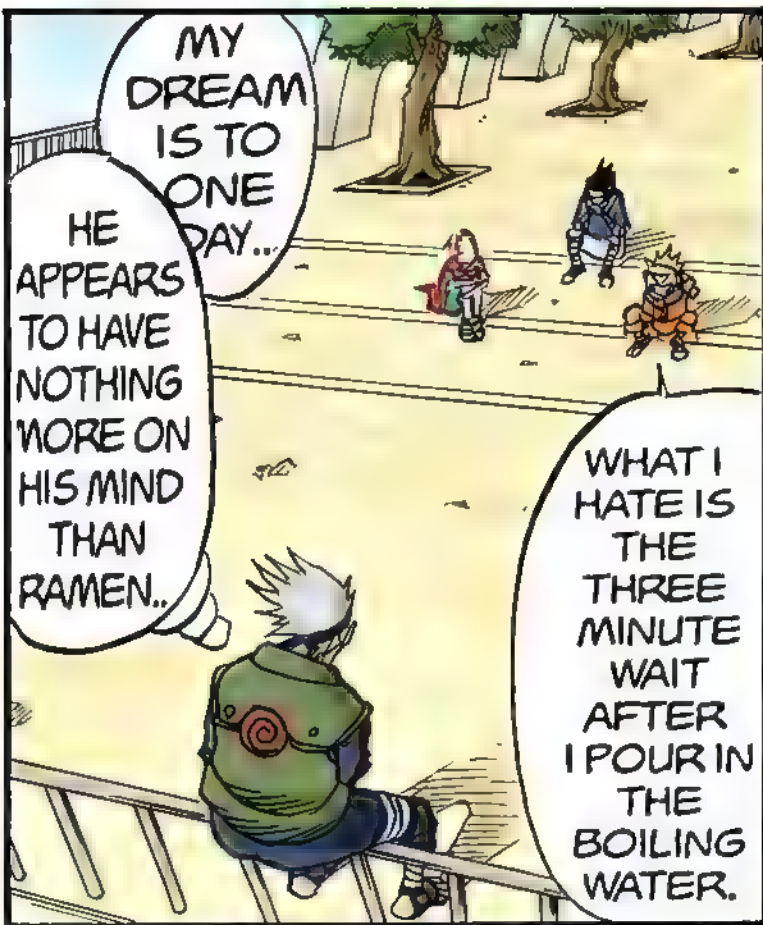
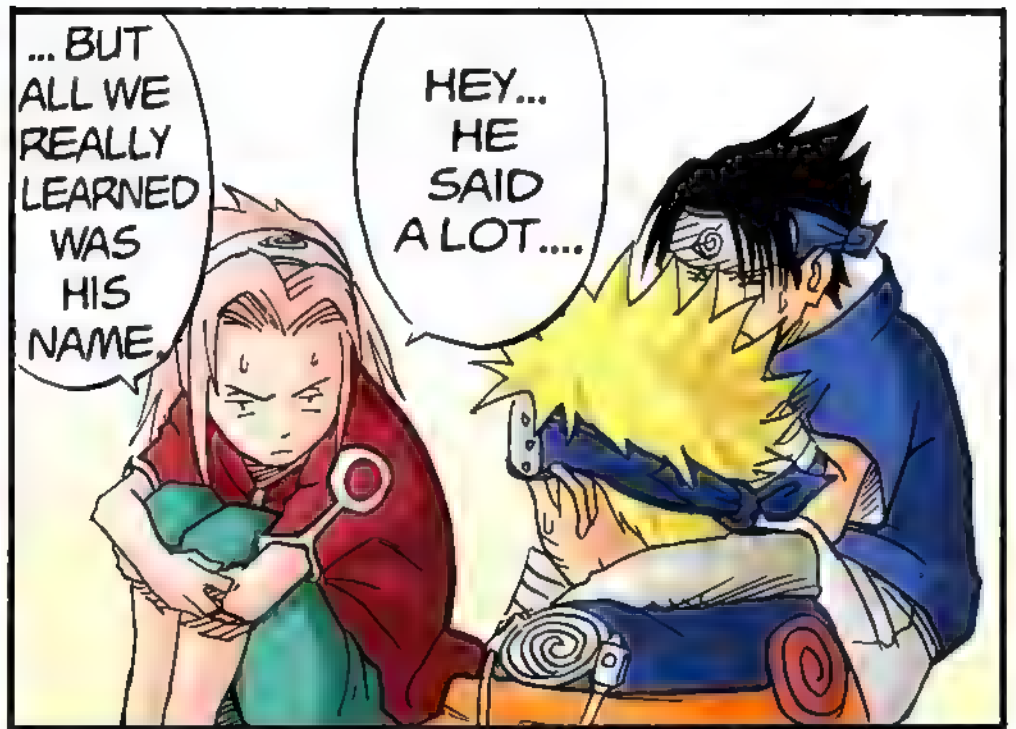
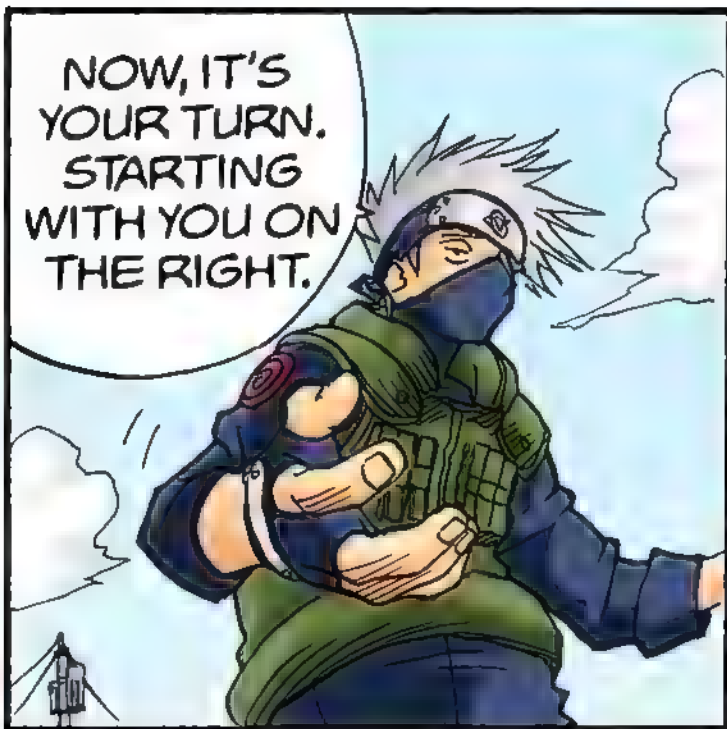
DREAMS,
AMBITIONS,
HOBBIES.
THINGS
LIKE THAT.

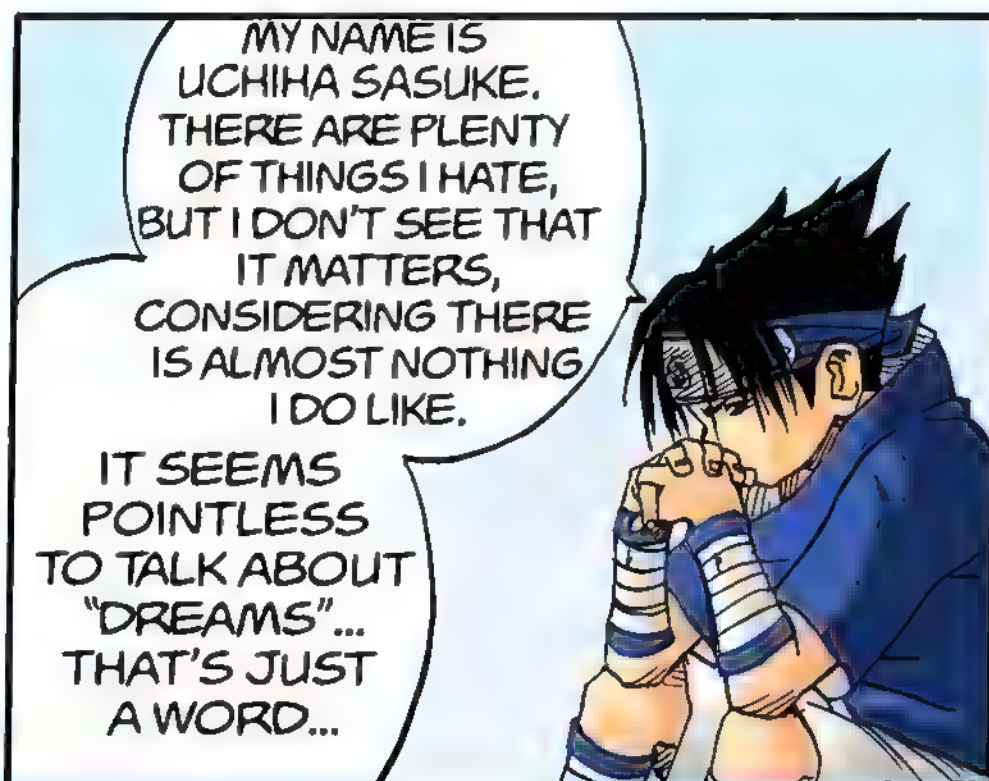
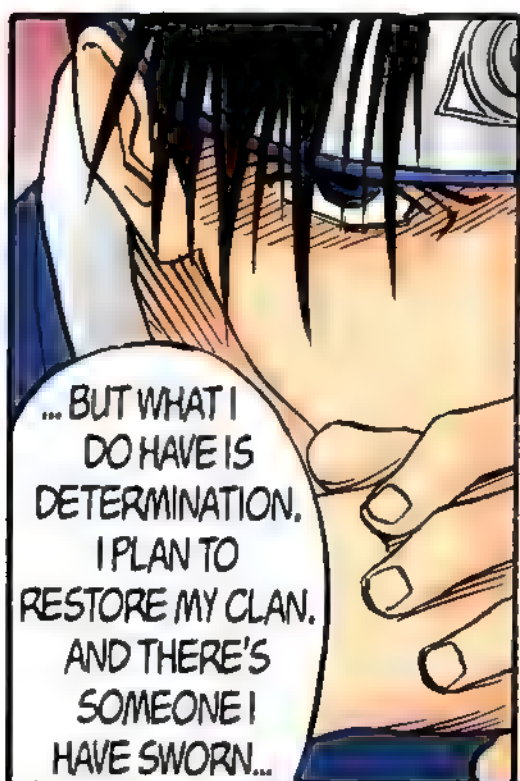
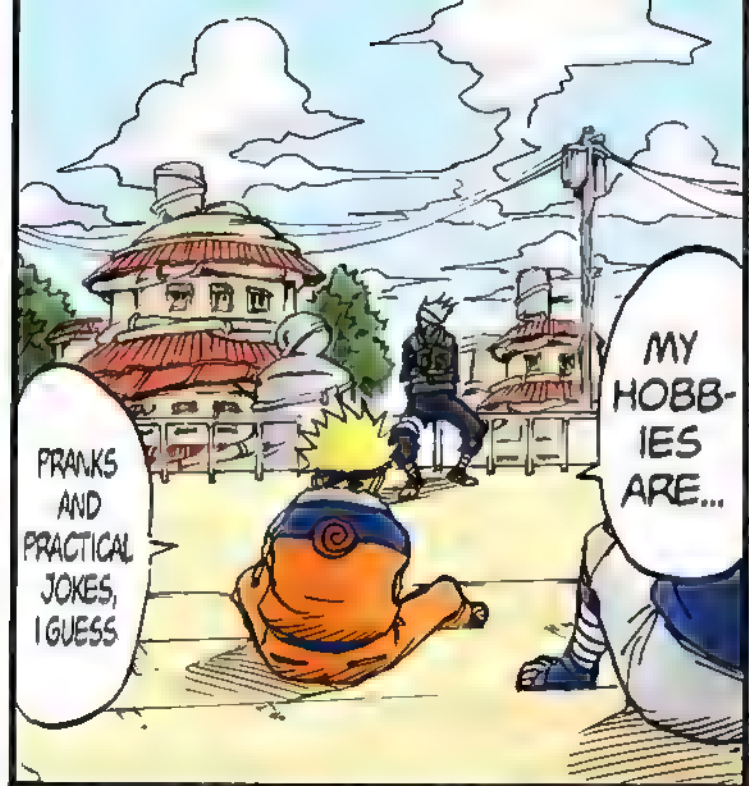
...YOU
KNOW.
THE USUAL.
YOUR
FAVORITE
THING...
WHAT YOU
HATE
MOST...

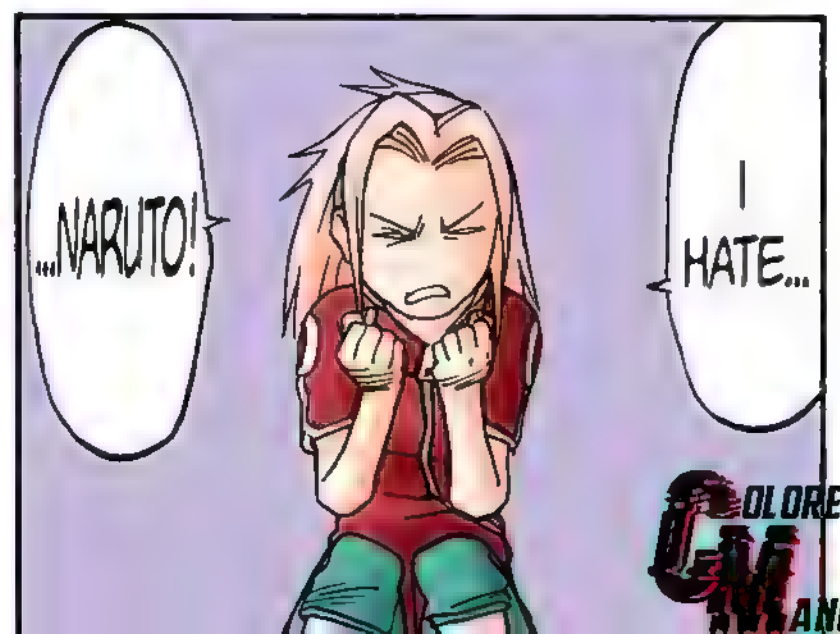
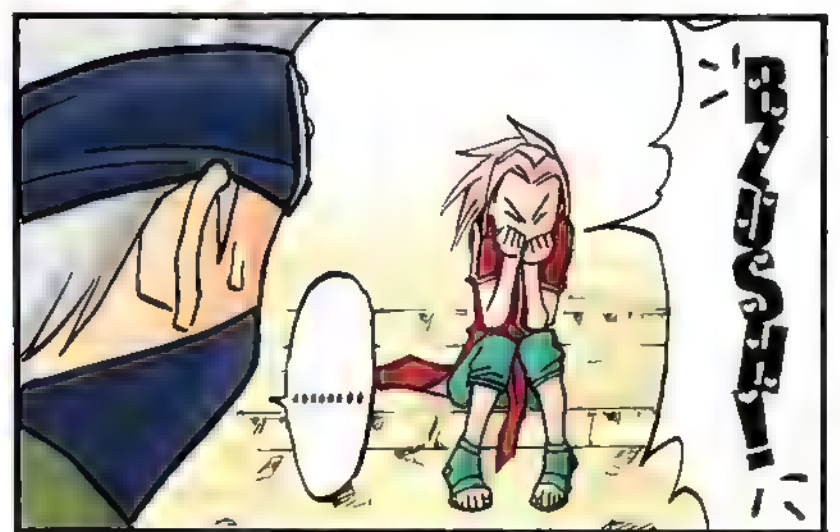
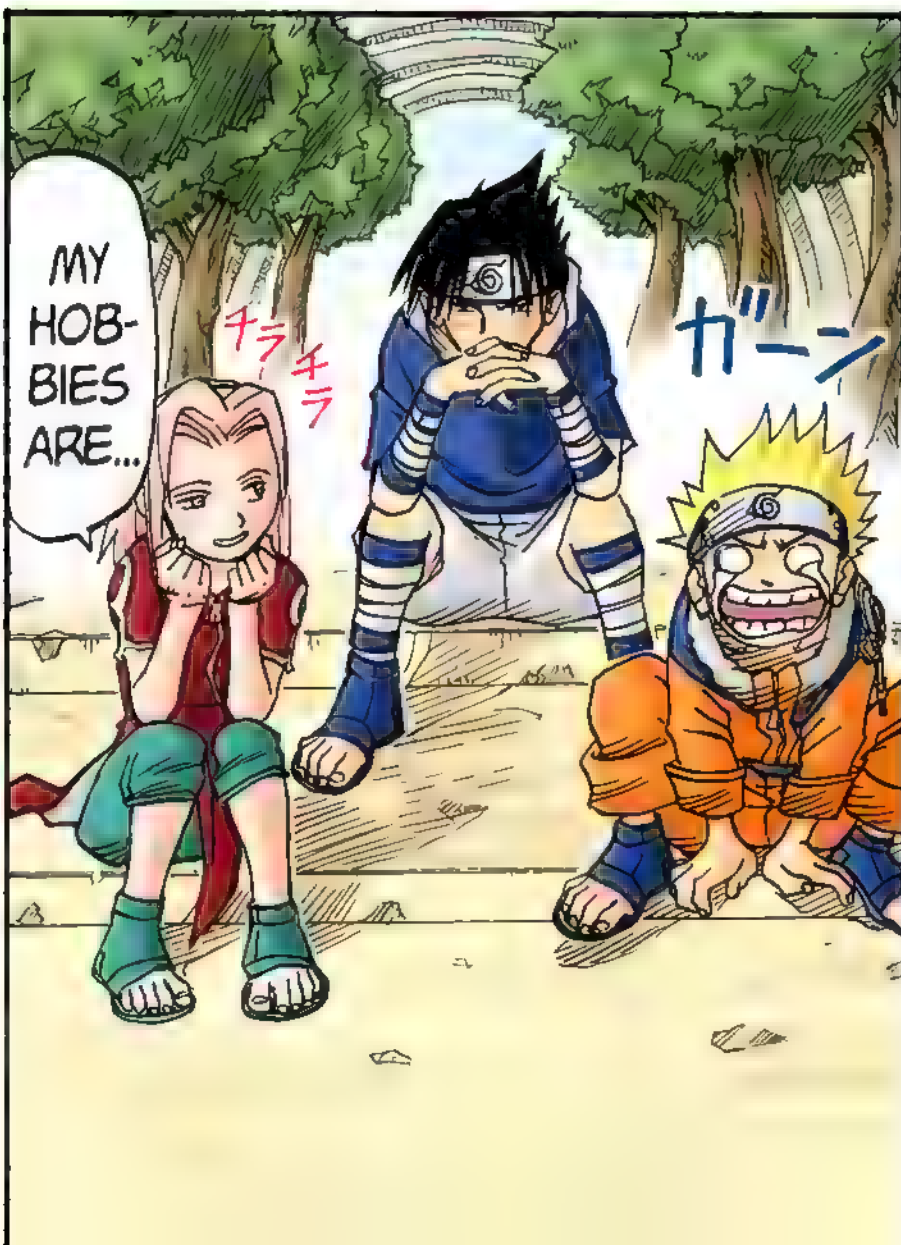
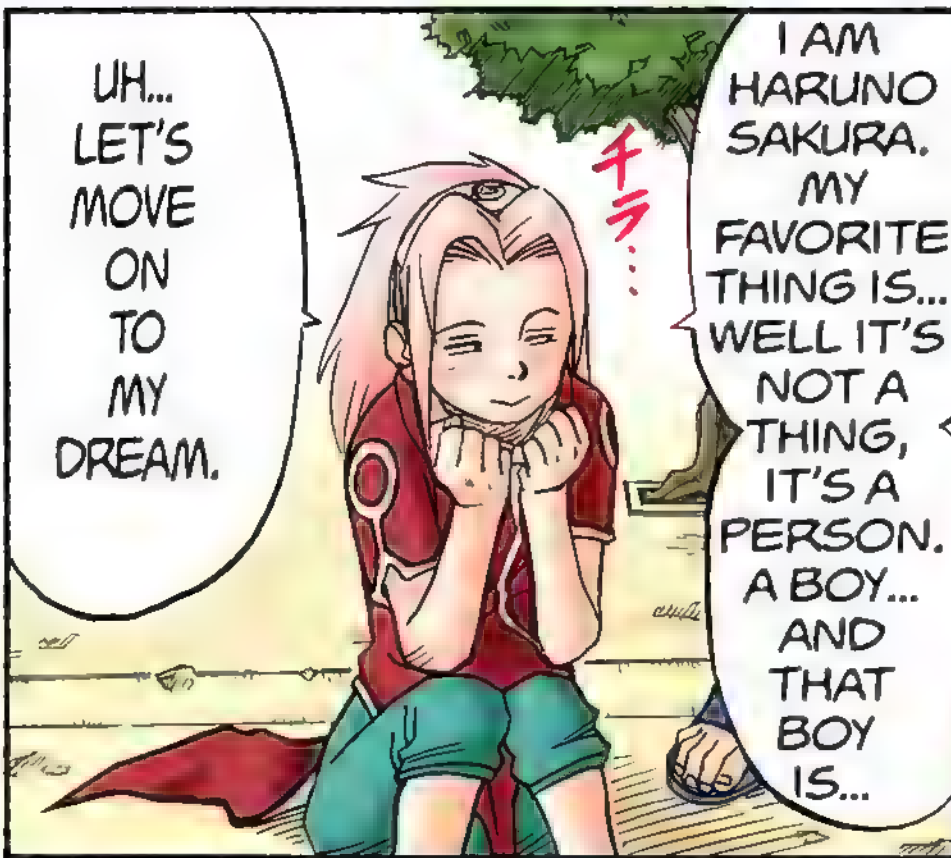
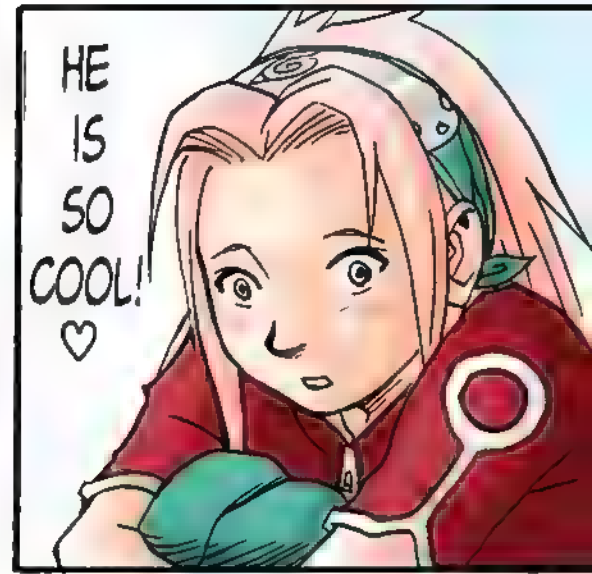
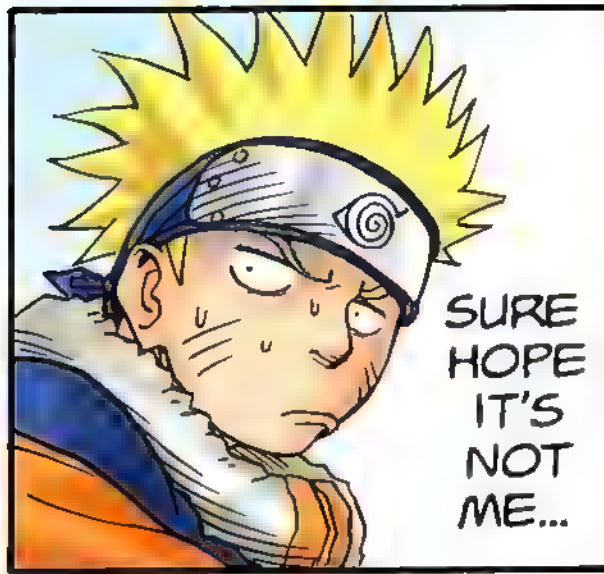
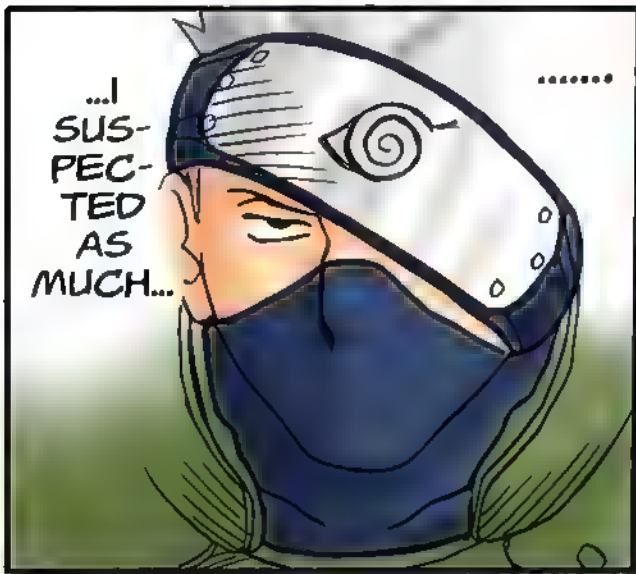


MY DREAMS
FOR THE
FUTURE
ARE NONE
OF YOUR
BUSINESS...
BUT ANYWAY,
I HAVE
LOTS OF
HOBBIES...

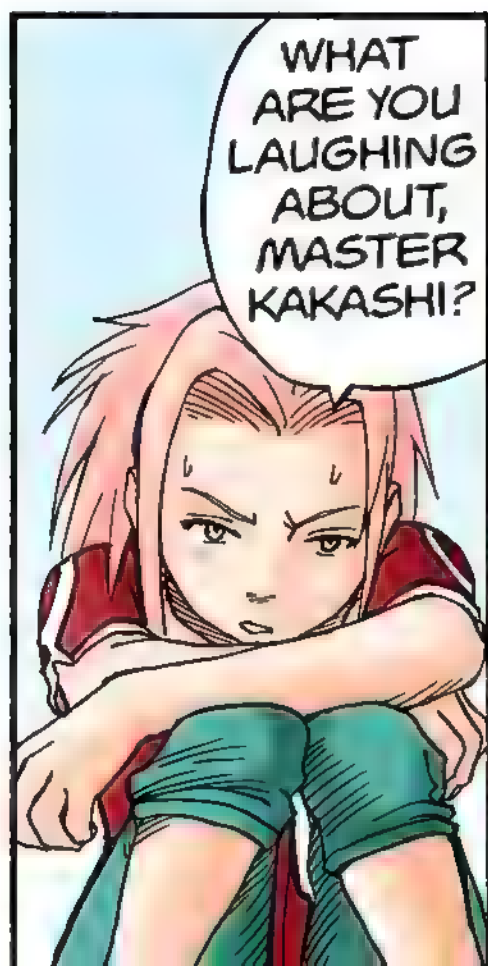
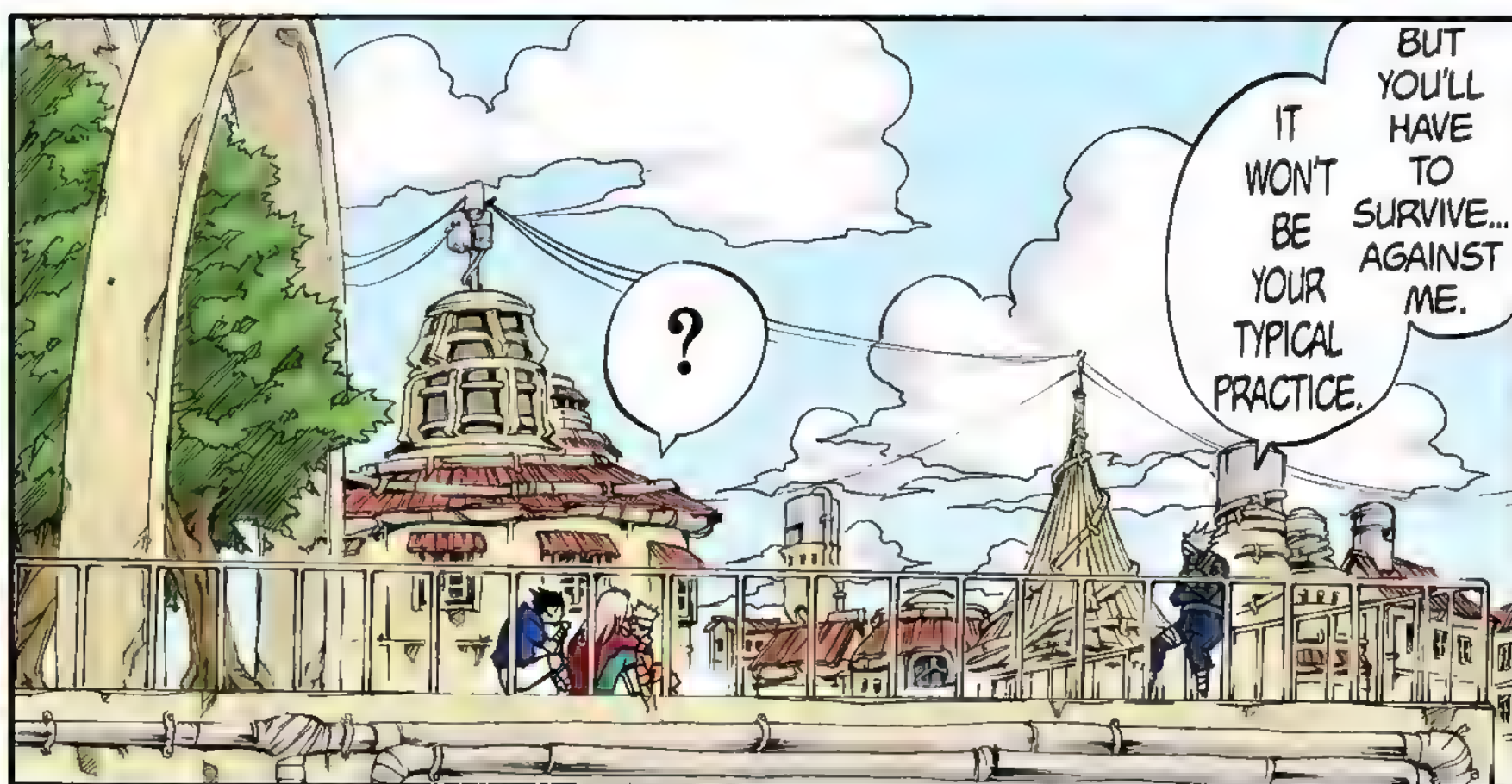
OH..... ME?
MY NAME IS
HATAKE KAKASHI.
I'M THE KIND OF
PERSON WHO
DOESN'T FEEL
LIKE TALKING
ABOUT HIS LIKES
AND DISLIKES!

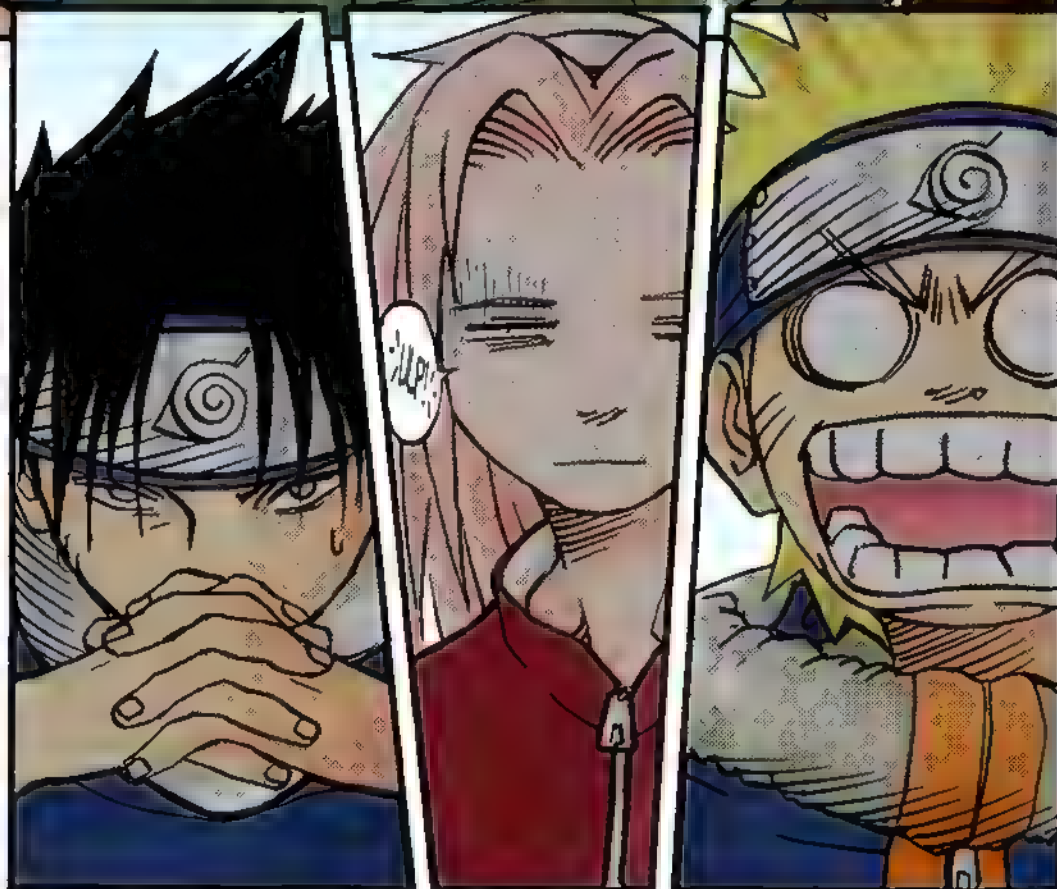
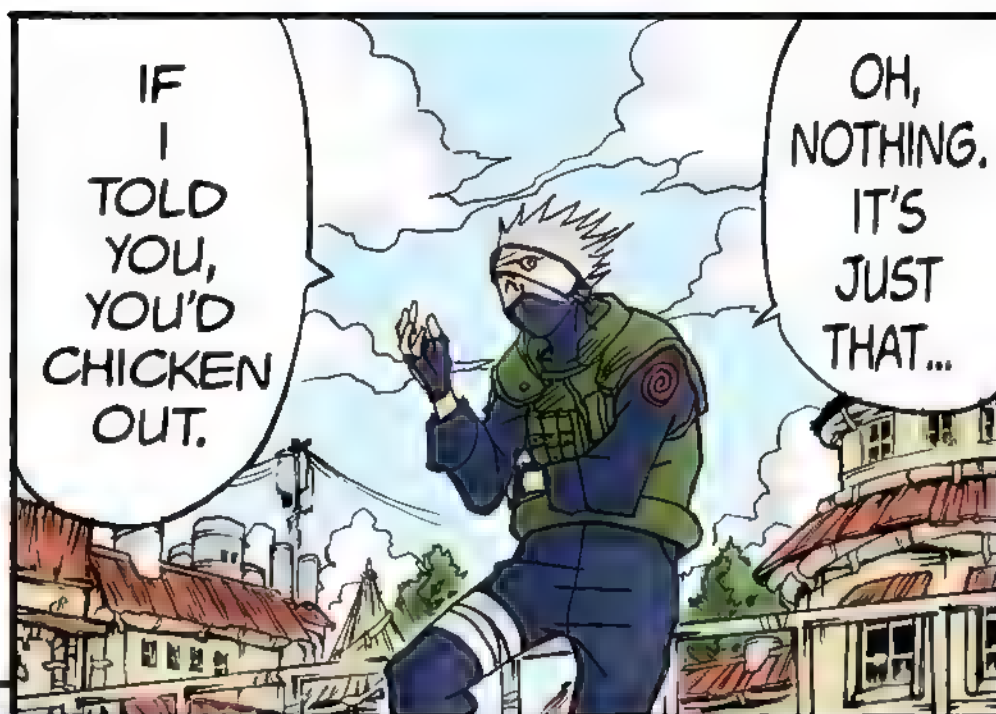
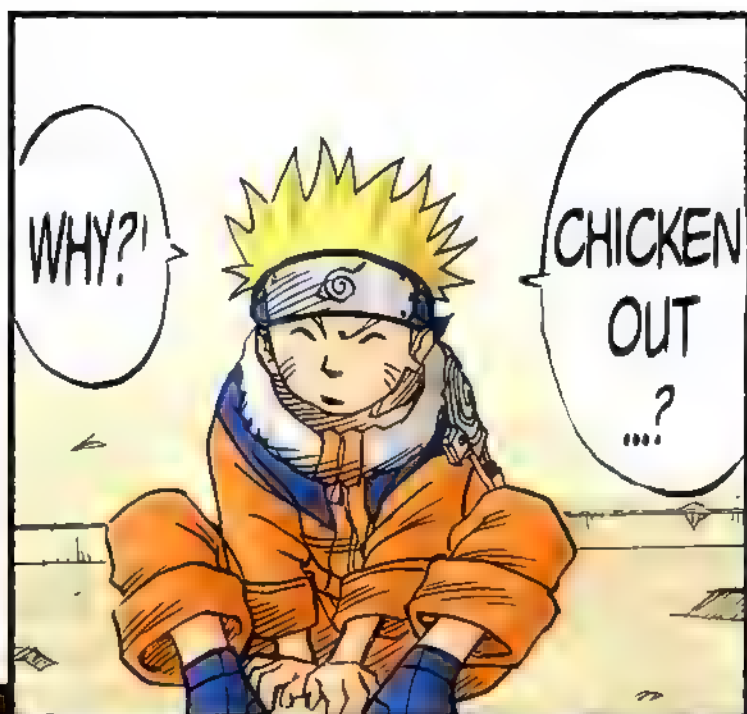












OH! WE WANTED TO ELIMINATE ALL THE HOPELESS CASES FROM YOUR RANKS. THE ONES WHO ARE LEFT ARE THE ONLY STUDENTS WHO SHOW TRUE POTENTIAL.

SAY WHAT?!!

WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH HELL! WHAT ABOUT OUR GRADUATION TEST?!

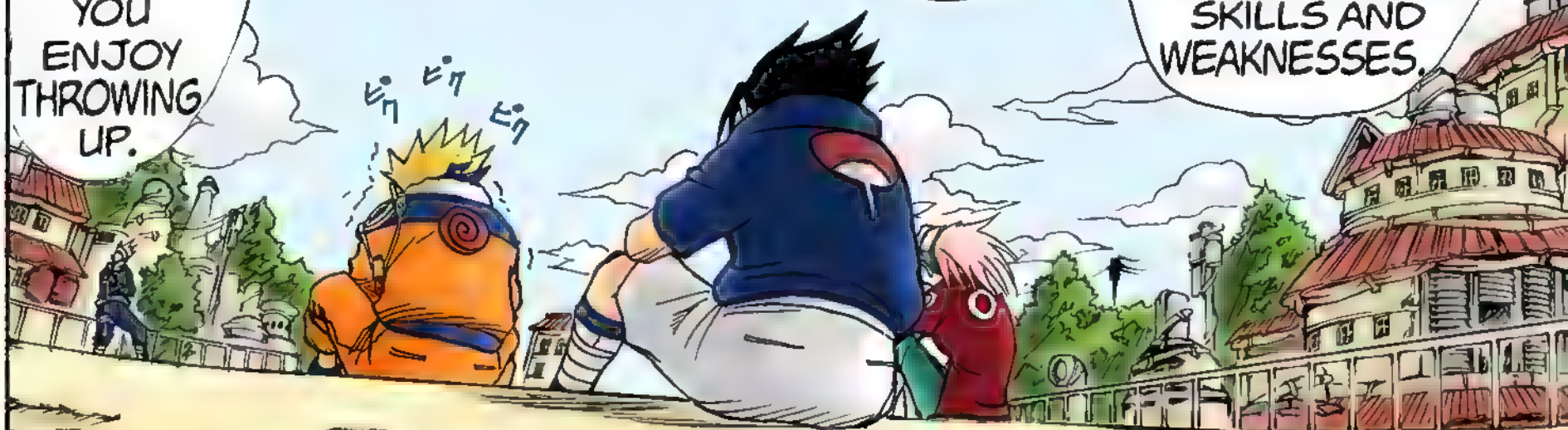
THAT SUCKS!!!



AND DON'T HAVE BREAKFAST BEFORE-HAND... UNLESS YOU ENJOY THROWING UP.

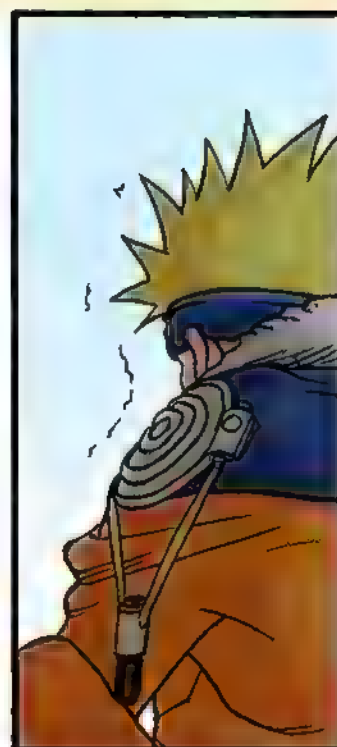
BRING ALL OF YOUR NINJA TOOLS AND WEAPONS.

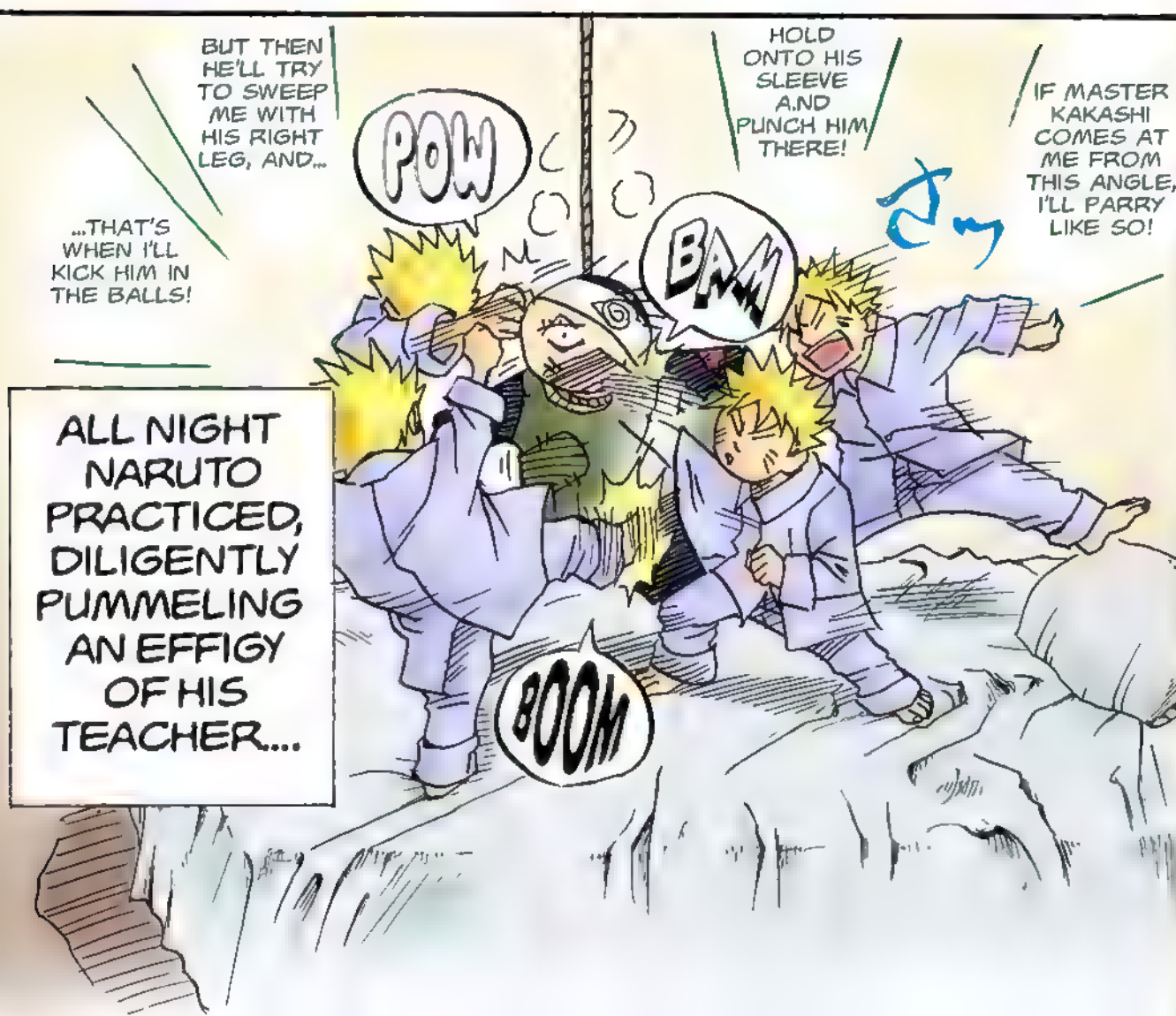
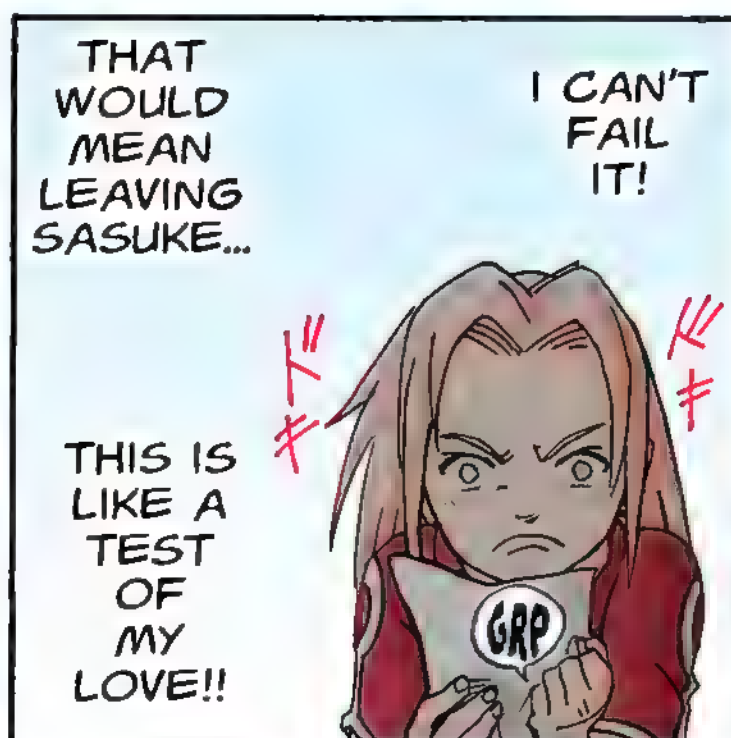
IN ANY EVENT, WE'LL MEET TOMORROW MORNING ON THE PRACTICE FIELD SO THAT I CAN EVALUATE EACH OF YOUR SKILLS AND WEAKNESSES.

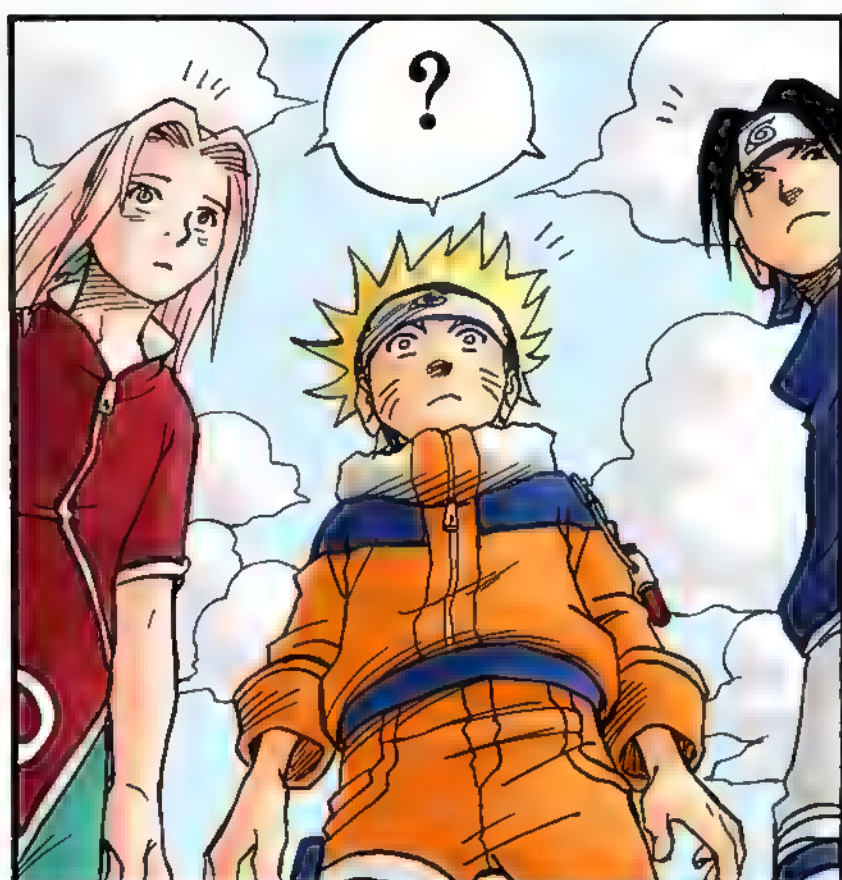
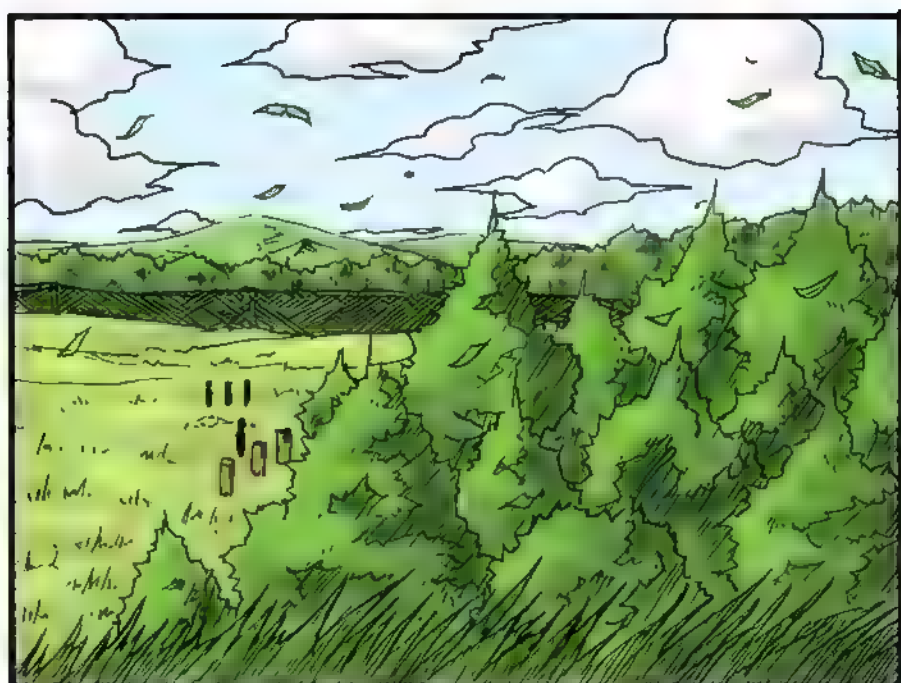
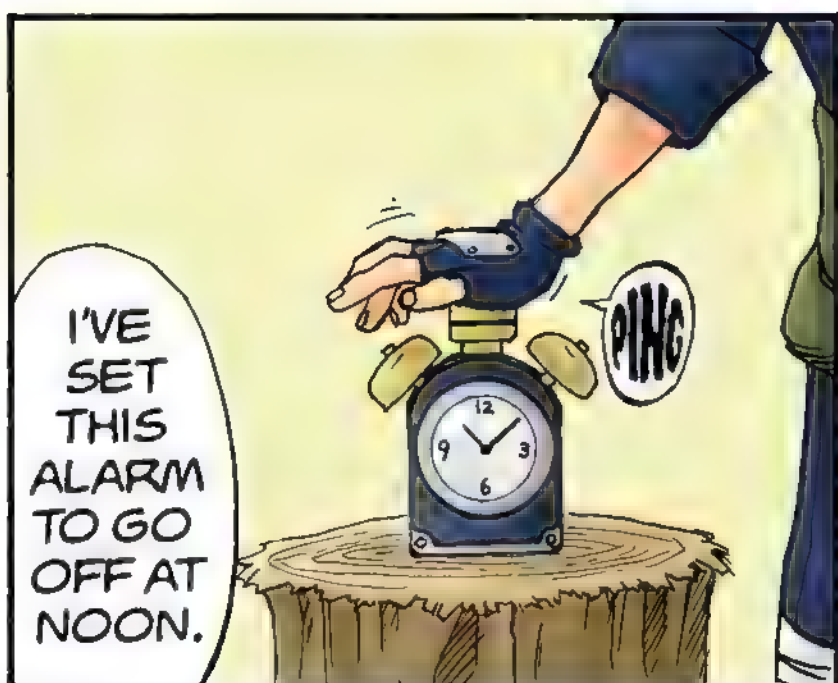
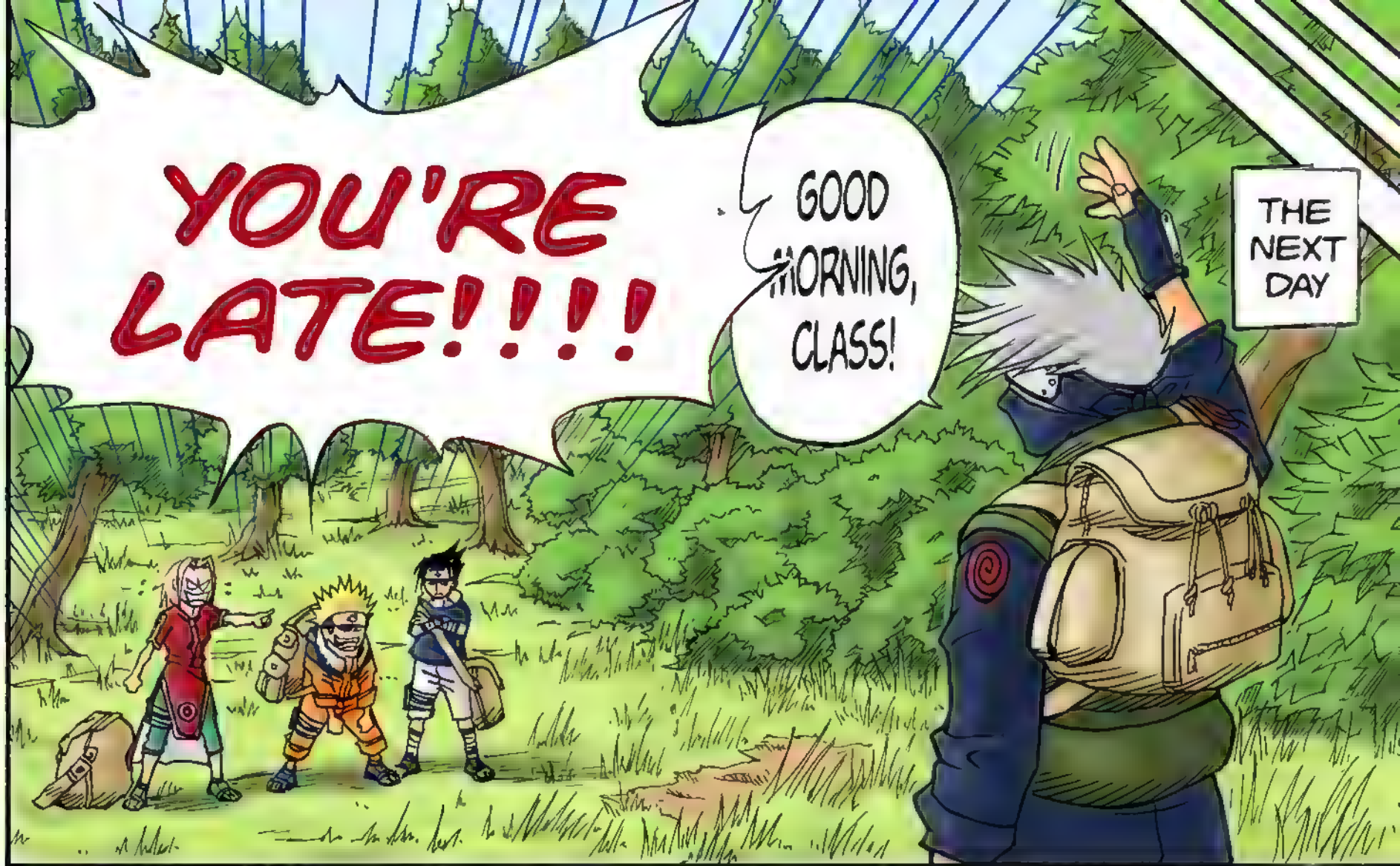


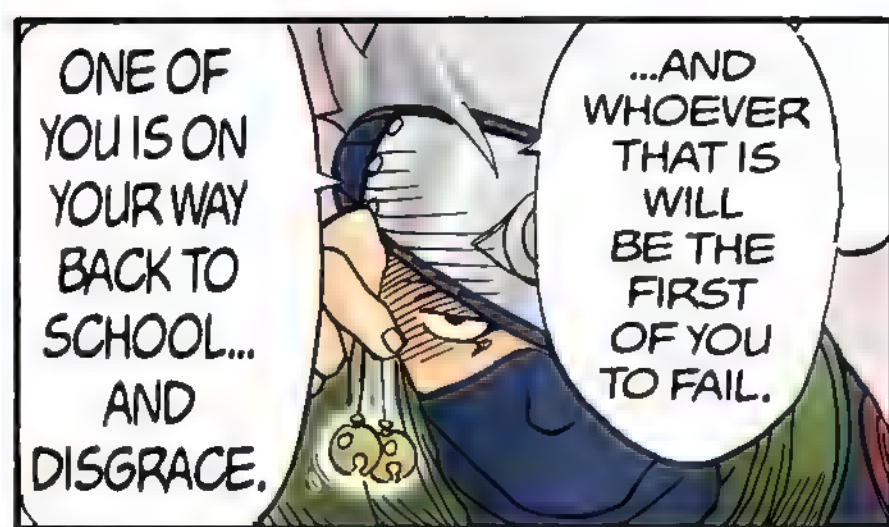
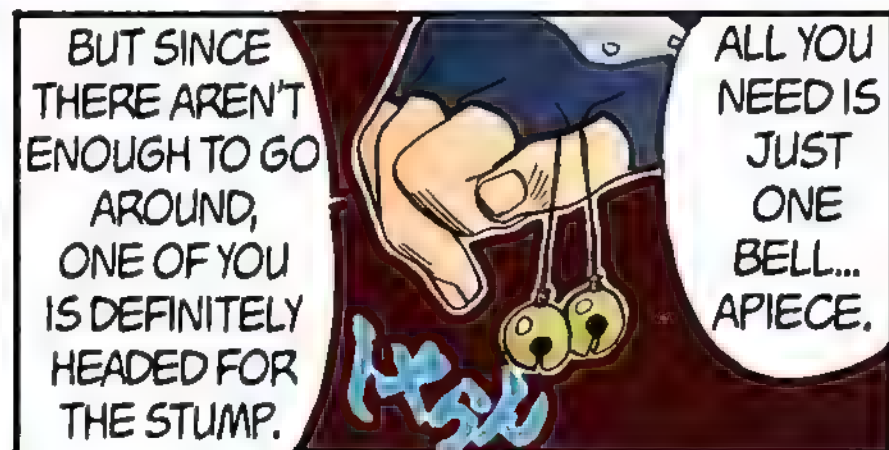
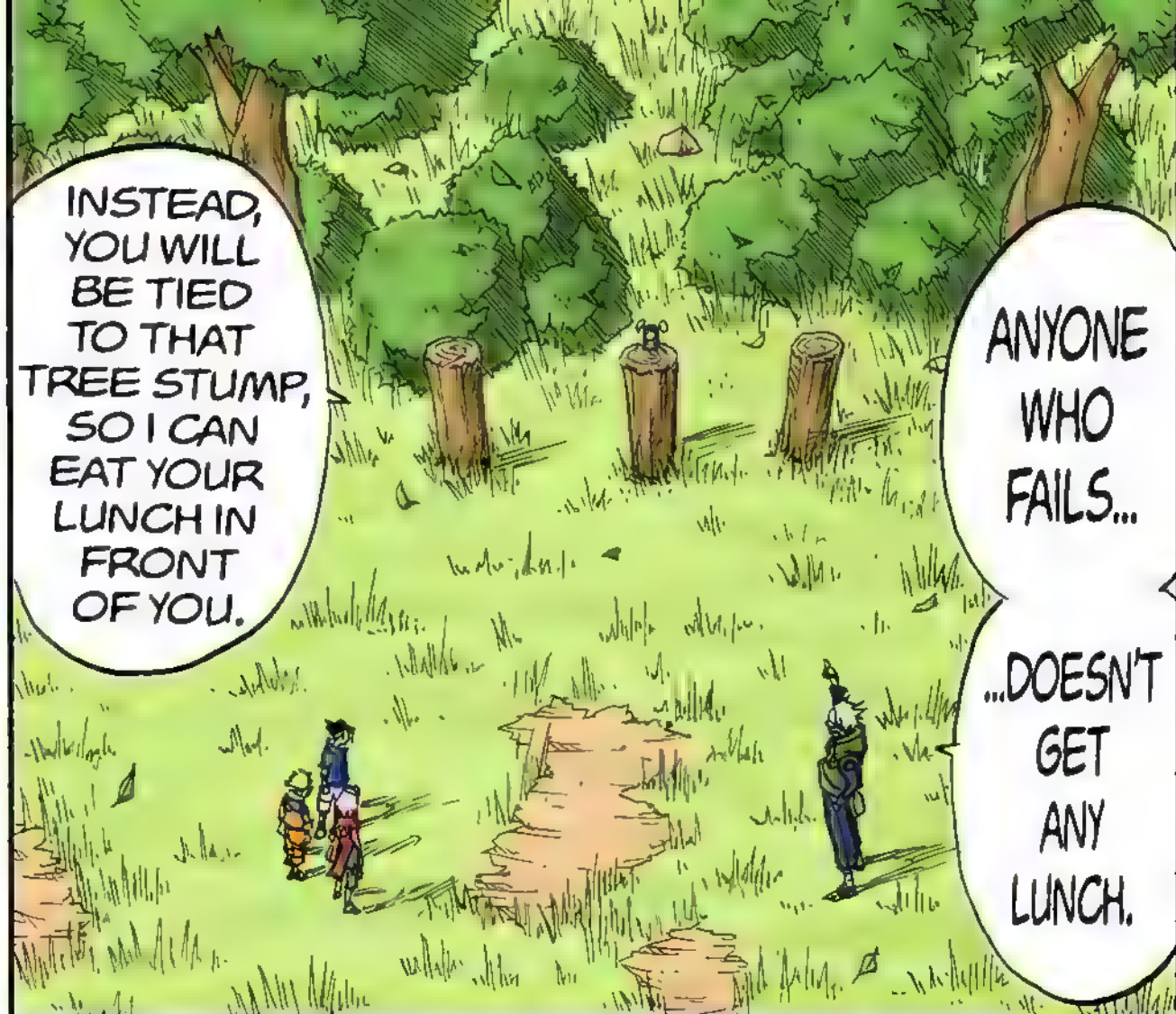
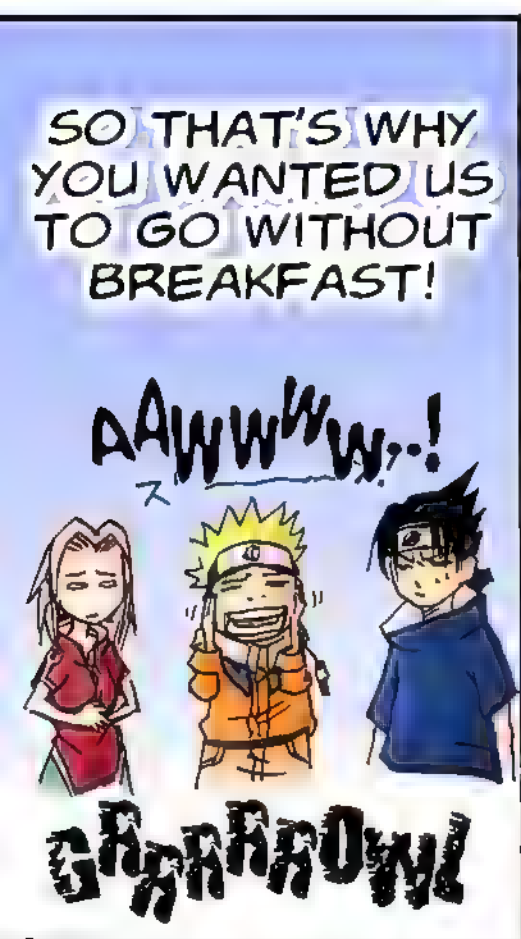
I'LL KICK MASTER KAKASHI'S ASS! THEN I'LL GET SOME RESPECT! YEAH!

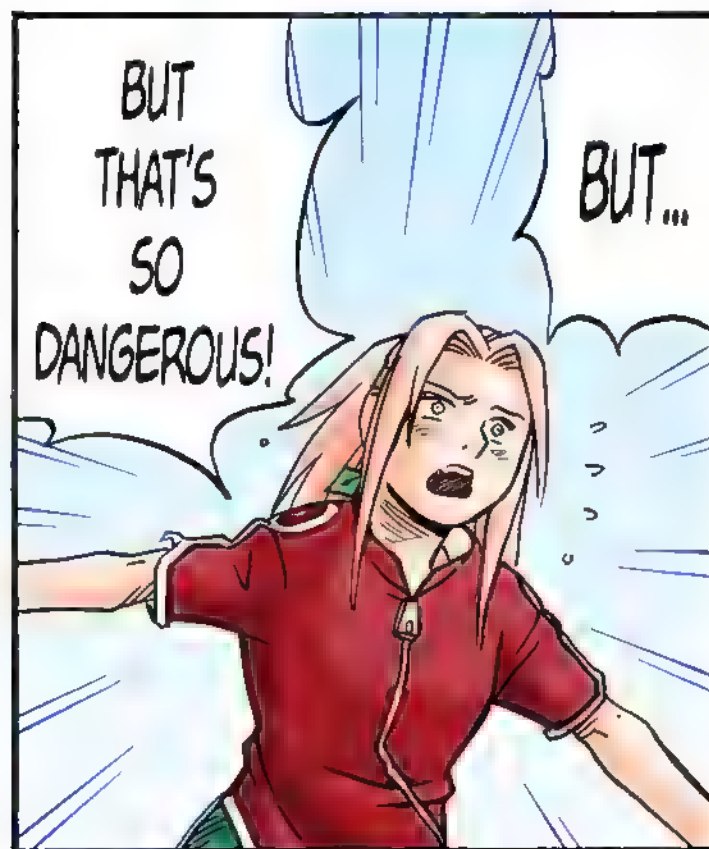
NO WAY WILL I LET THIS SET ME BACK.

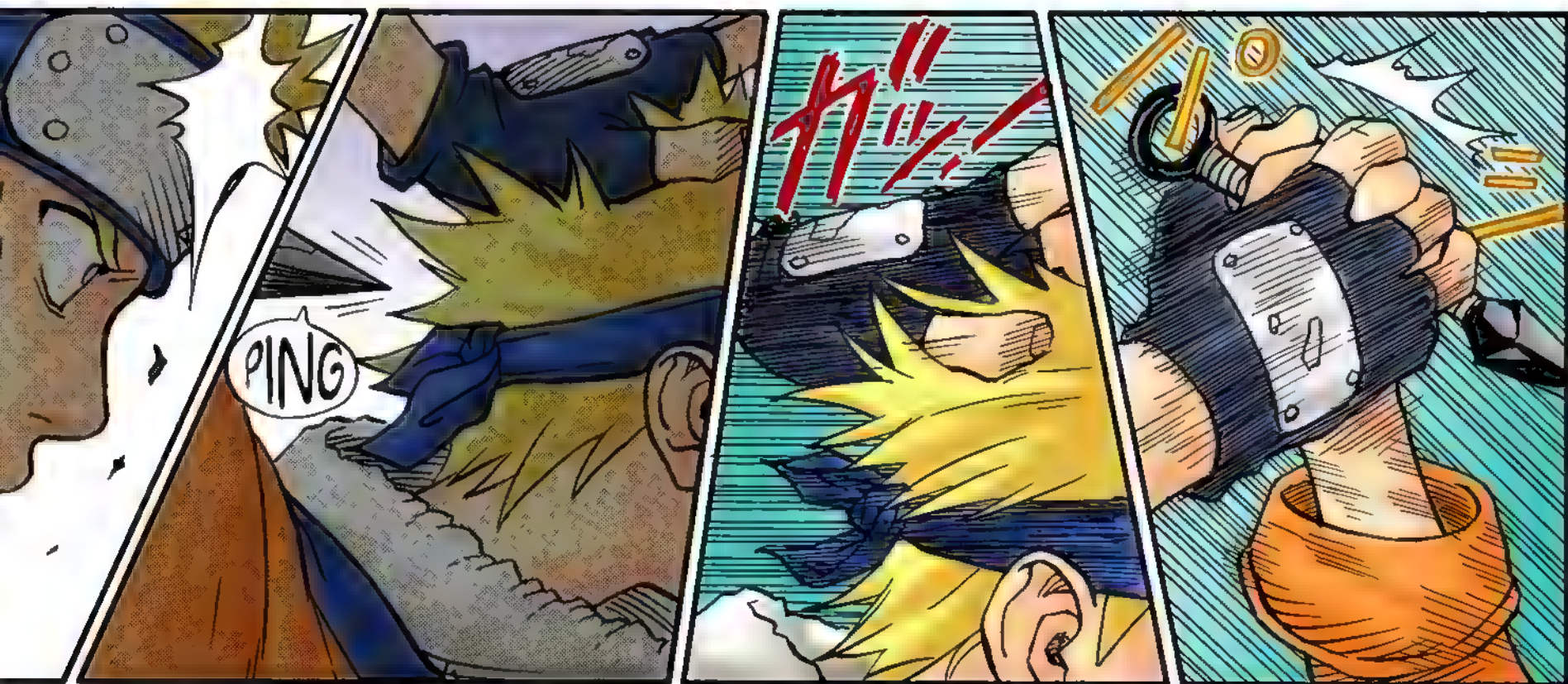


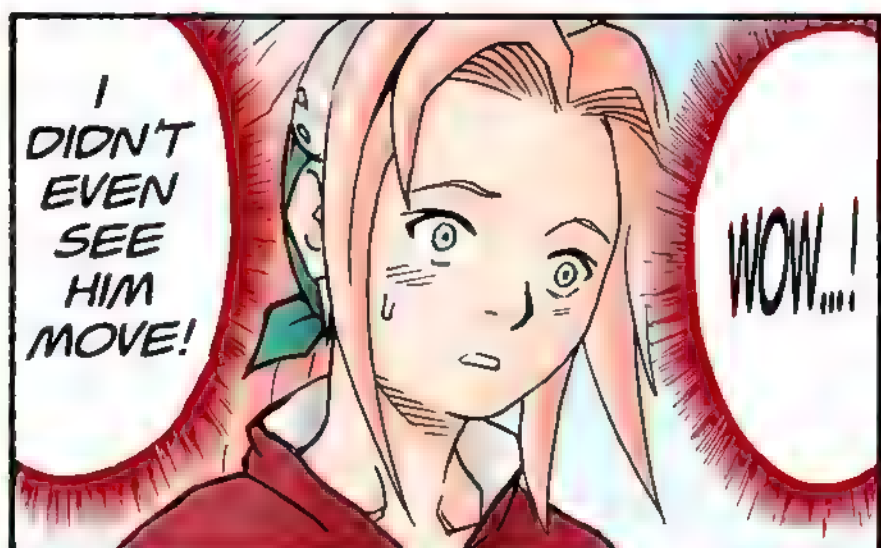
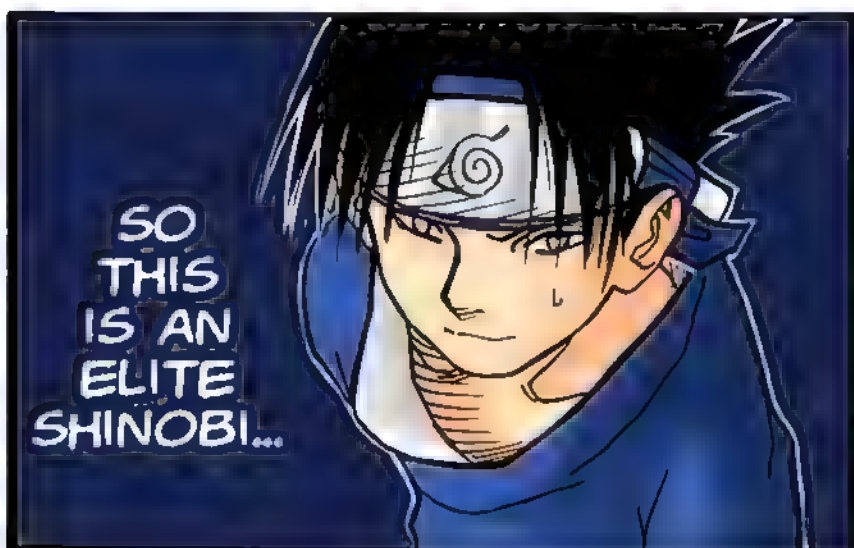


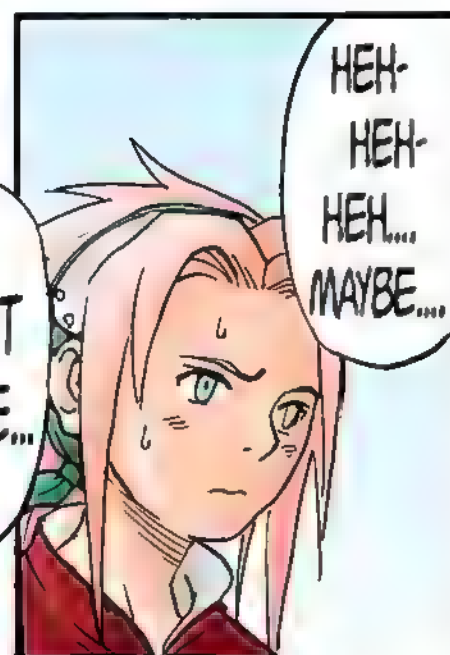
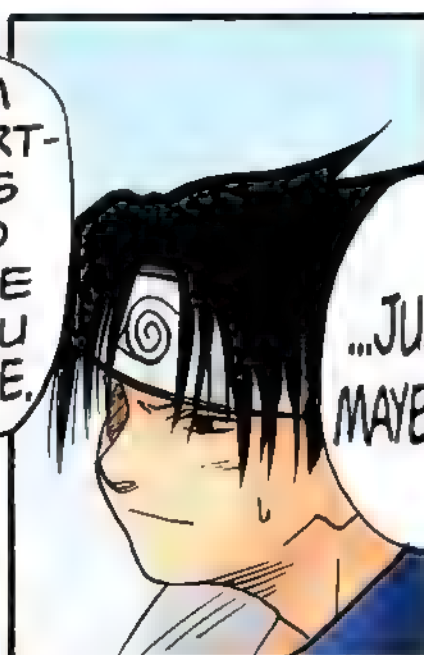
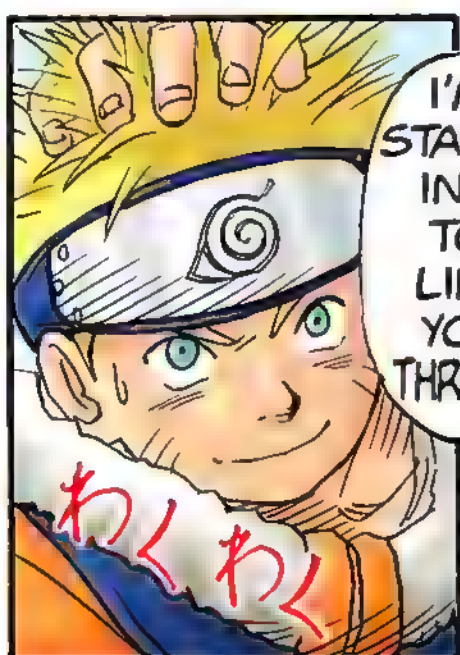












THE MAKING OF NARUTO!!!



The Kakashi That Might Have Been

The Rejected Outline for the Second Chapter

My original plan for Kakashi's first appearance was to have him show up in the second chapter of **Naruto** (see [page #61](#)). He was meant to be a cool, affected, upper-level ninja who ended sentences (in the original Japanese) with the very polite "de gozaru" verb form. This was going to be before Sakura and Sasuke had been introduced. Kakashi would suddenly appear on the scene as Naruto's teacher. This idea was discarded after a discussion with my editor at **Weekly Shonen Jump**. As an outgrowth of things we discussed together, I was able to flesh out Kakashi, Sasuke, and Sakura into the characters they are today.

ナンバー

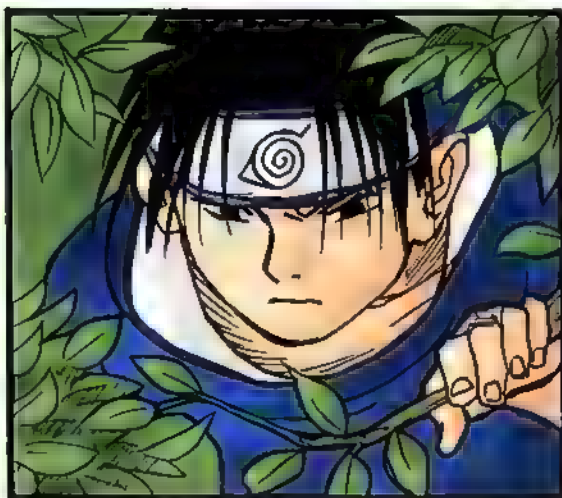
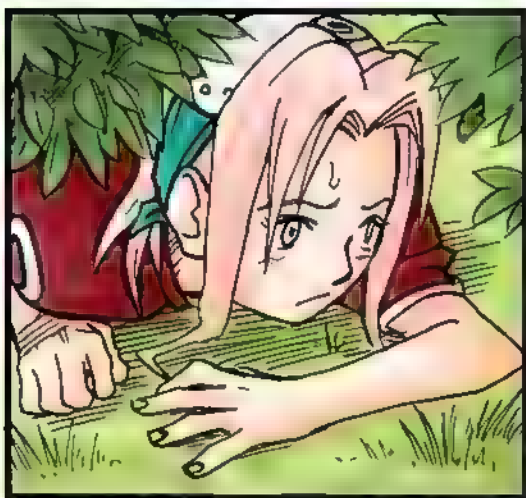
ゆ だ ん た い て き



5: 油断大敵!!

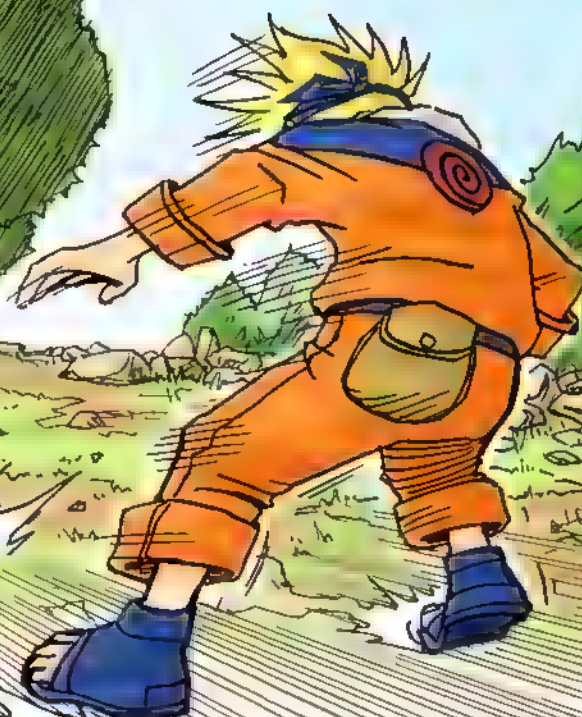
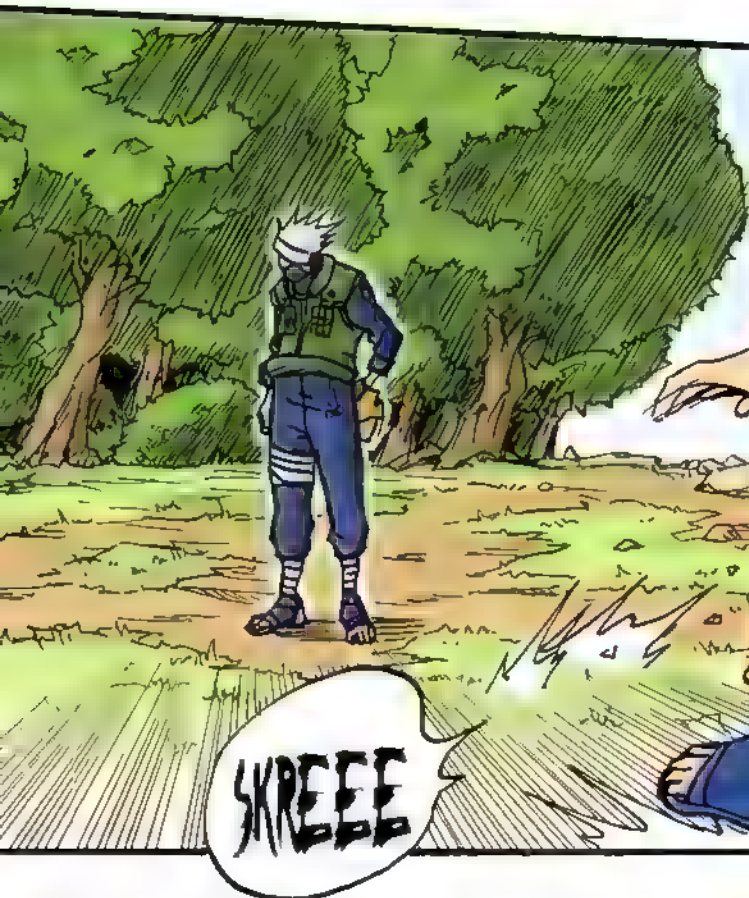
PRIDE GOETH BEFORE A FALL



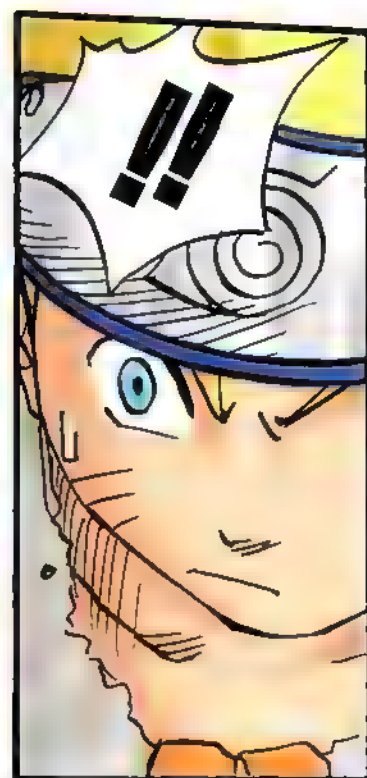




THE ONLY
WRONG
THING HERE
IS YOUR
HAIRSTYLE!



UH-
OH!

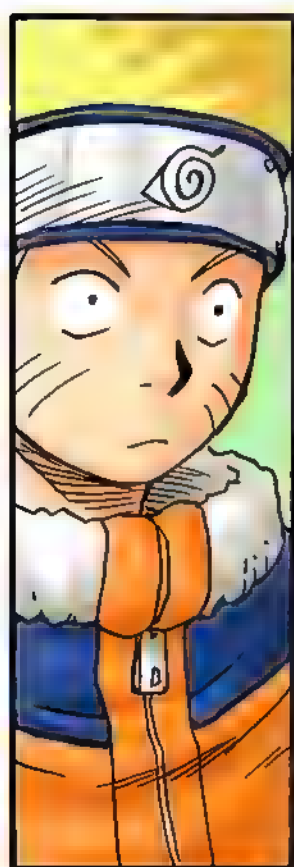
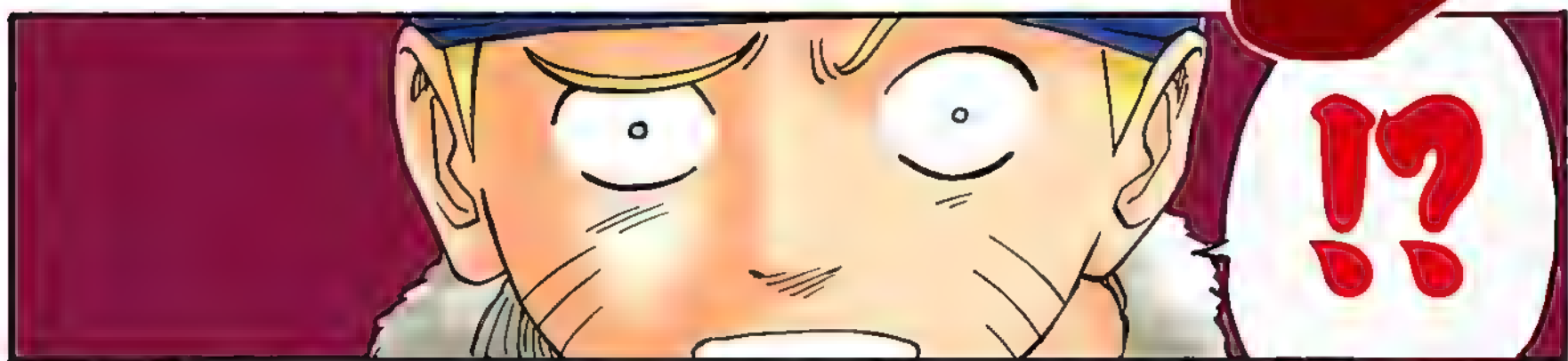


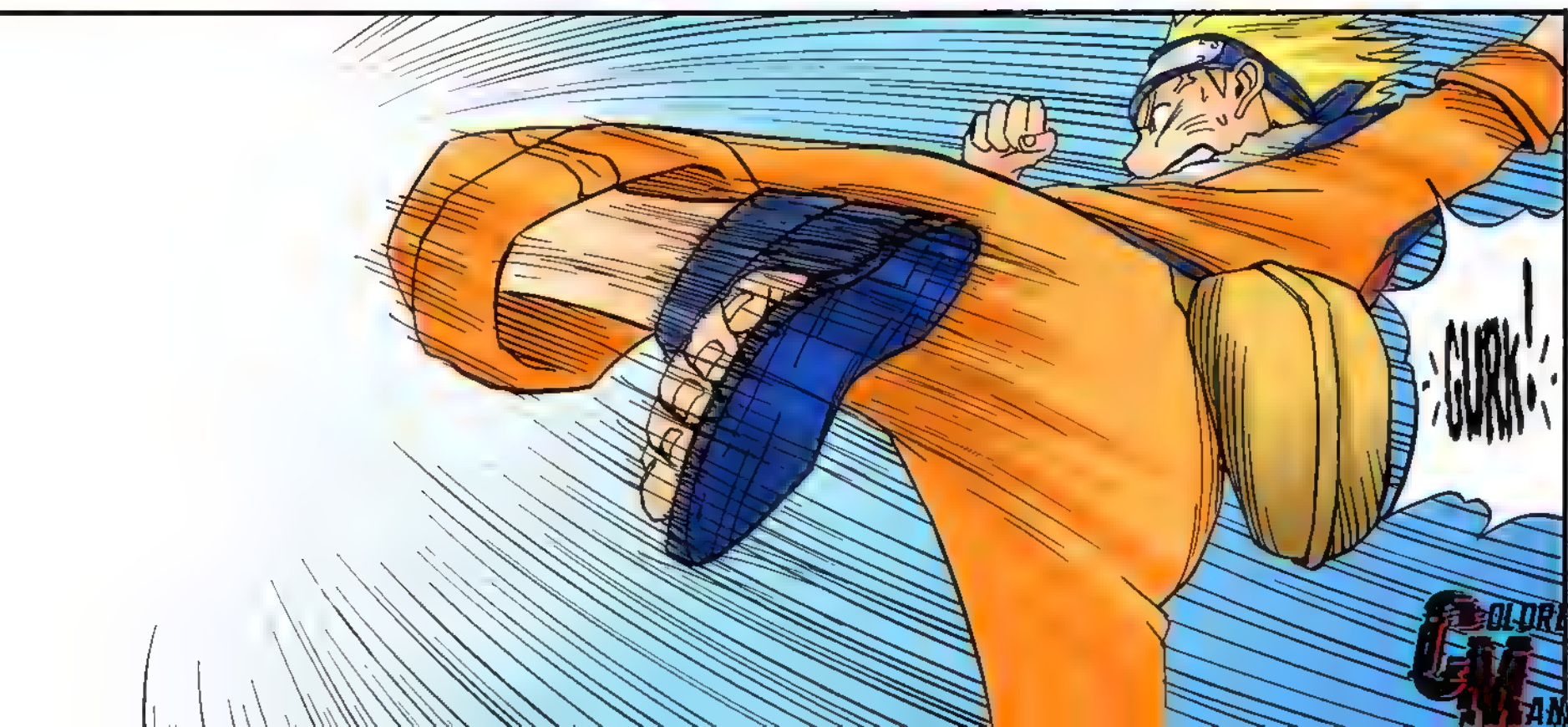
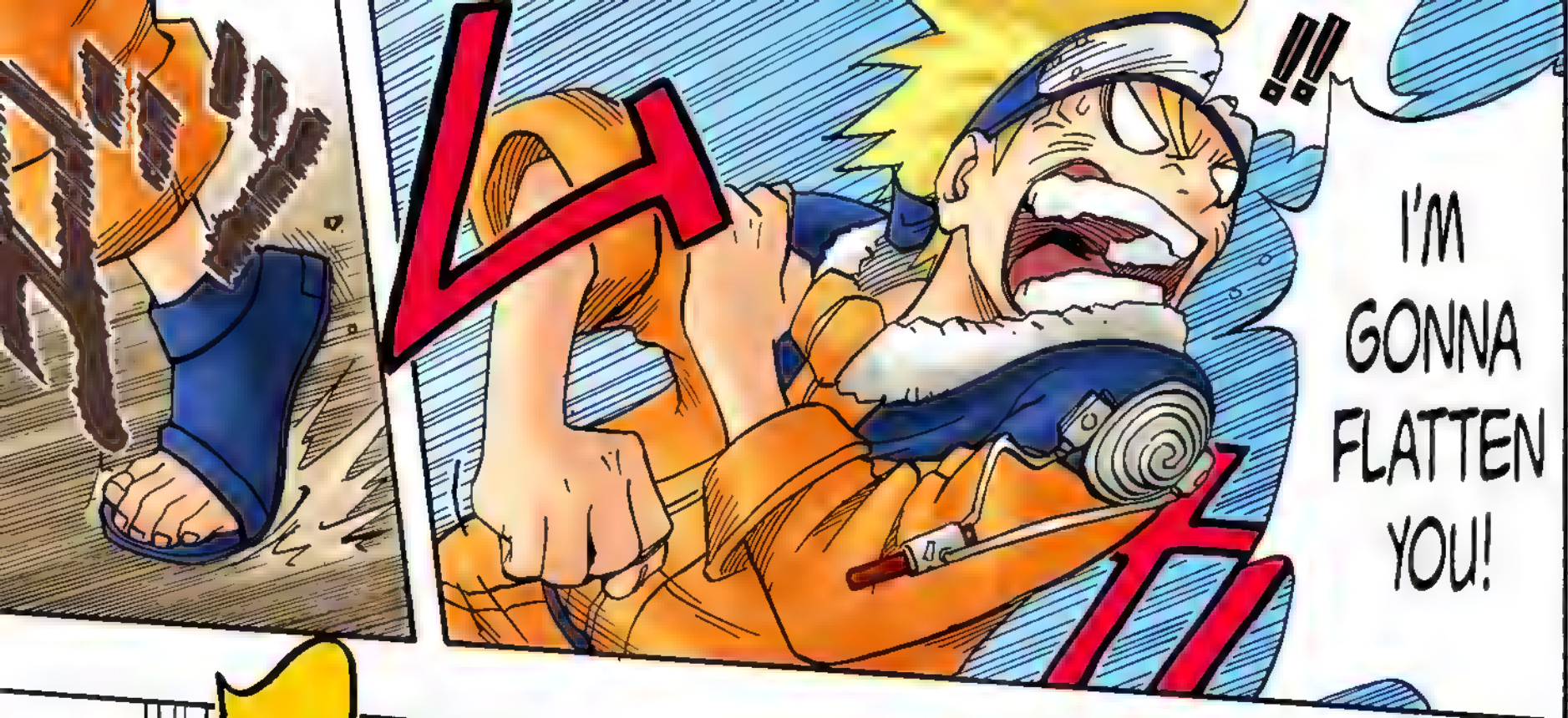
...SO
HOW
COME...
!!
!!
!!

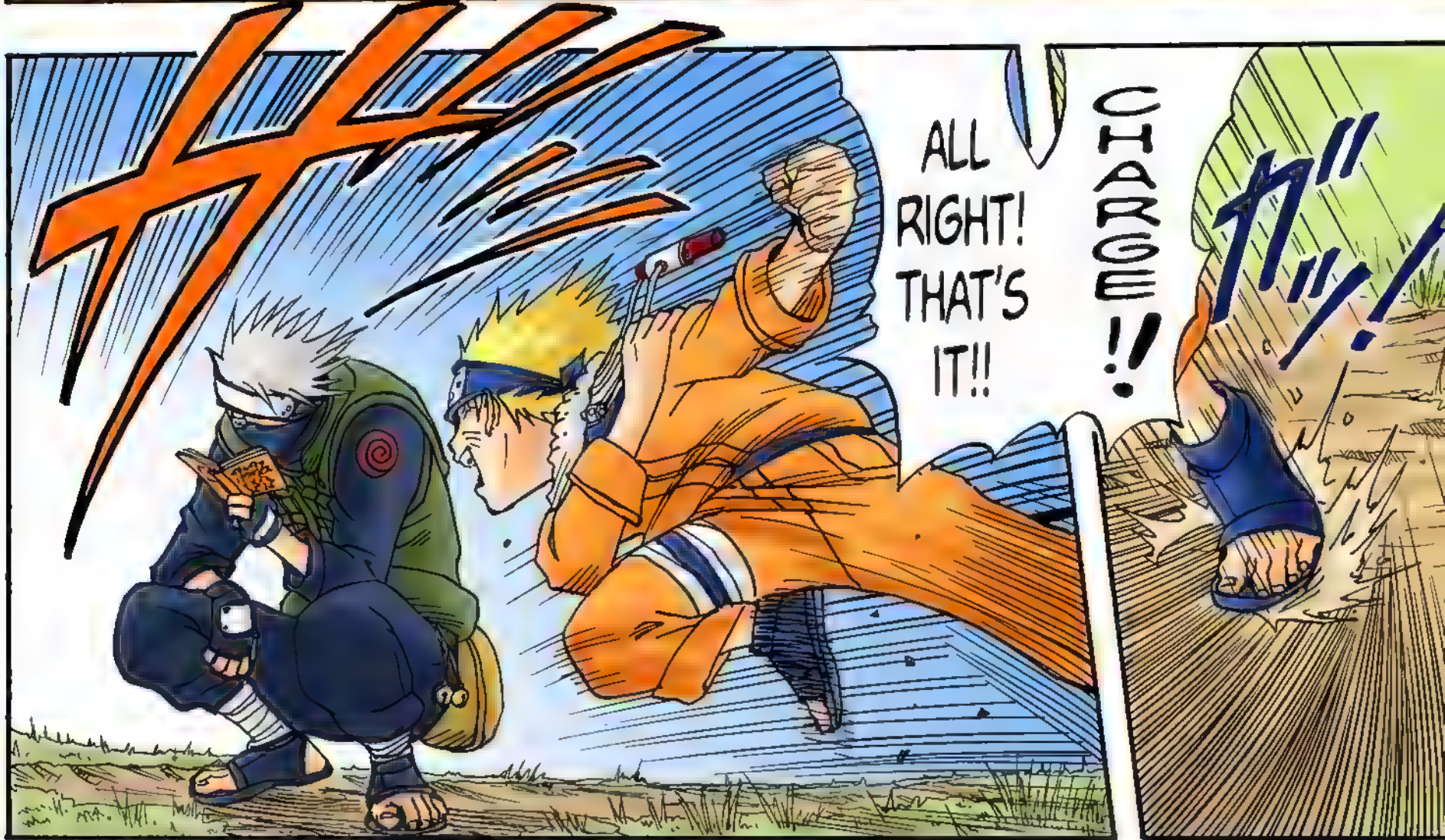


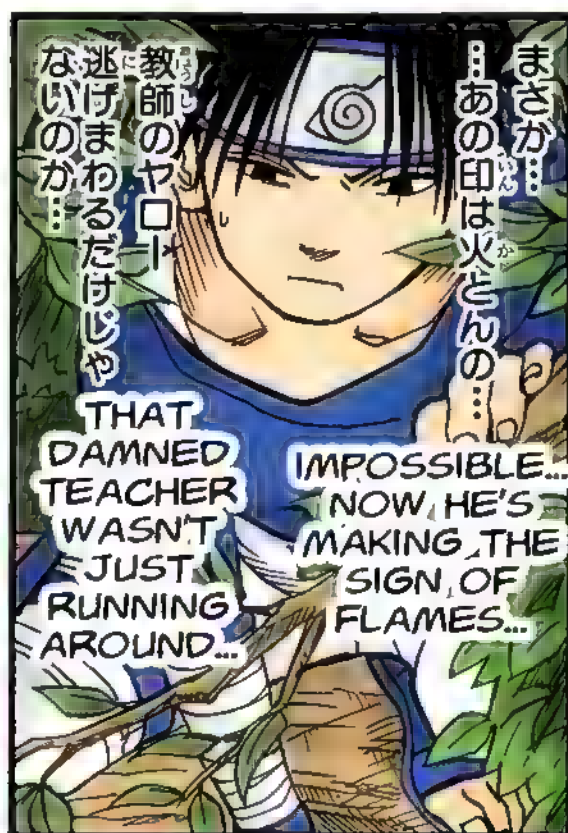
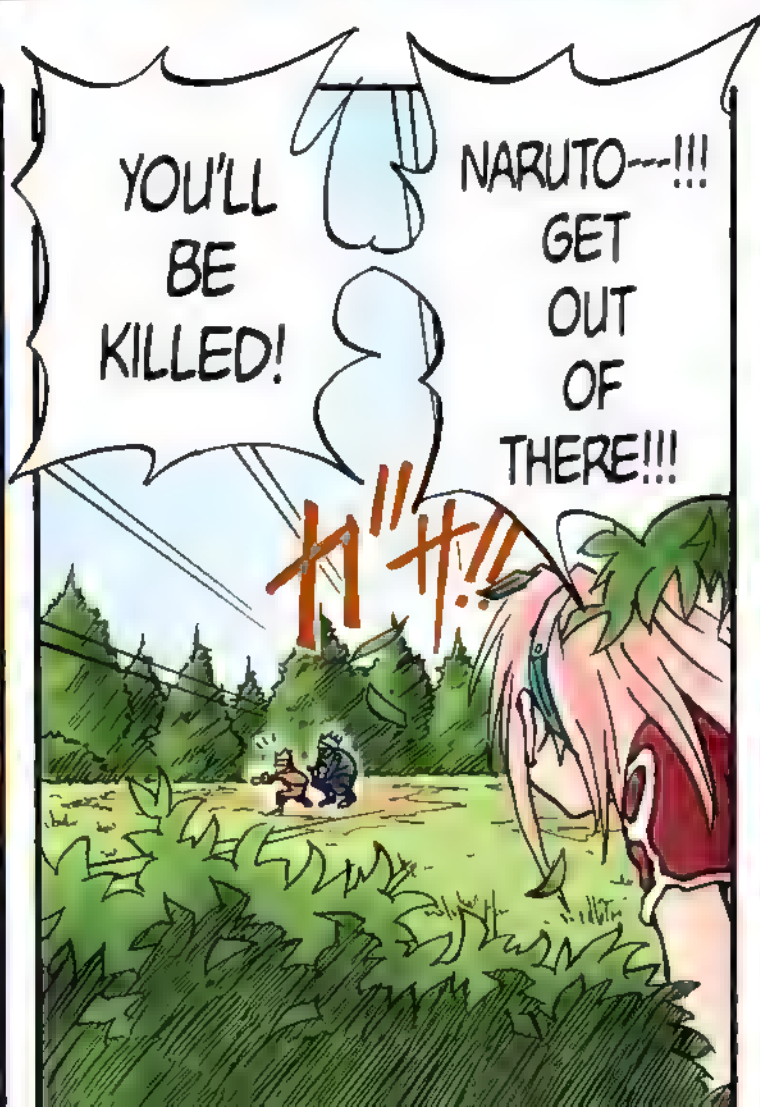
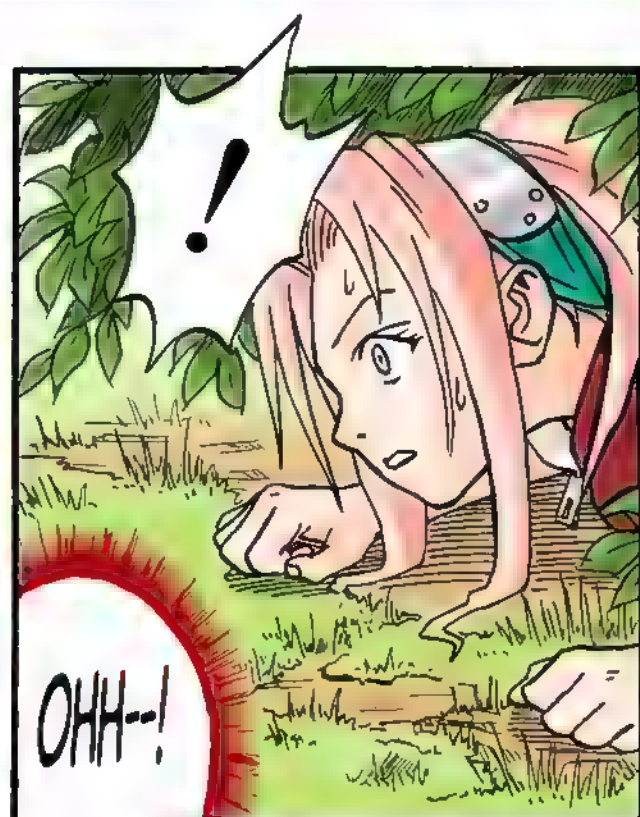
LET
ME
TEACH
YOU...

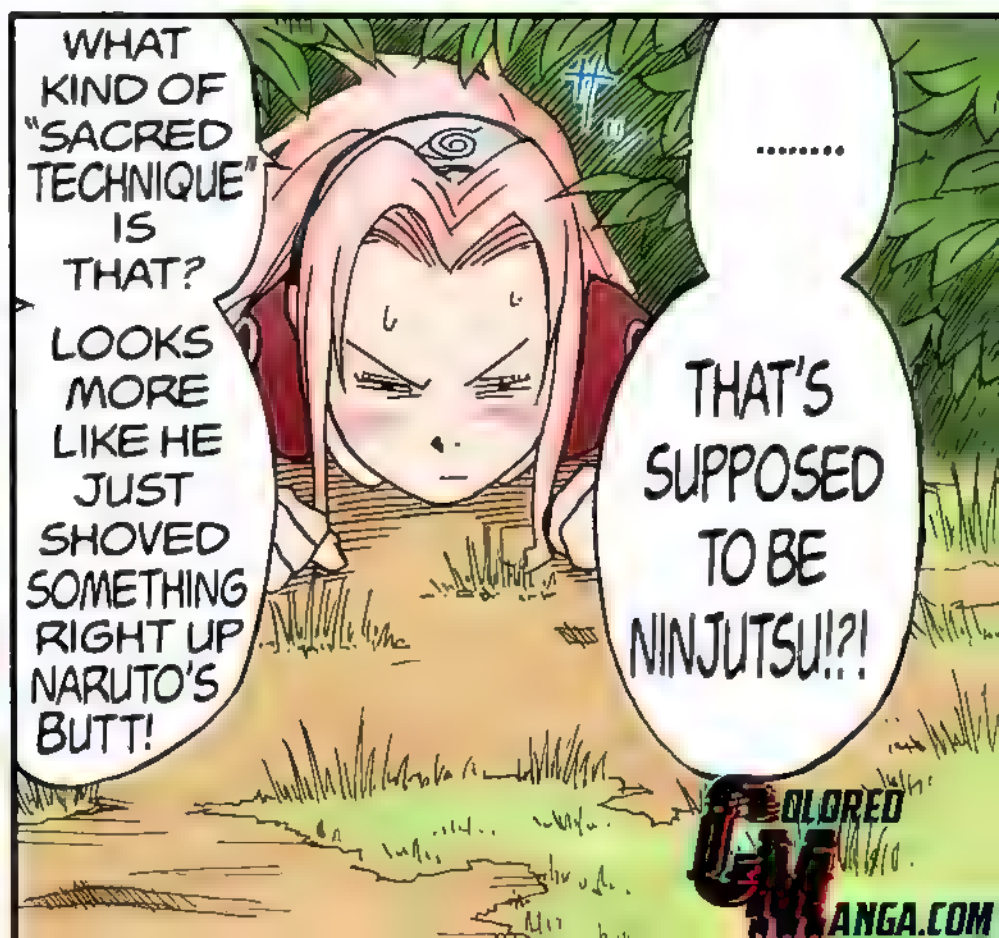
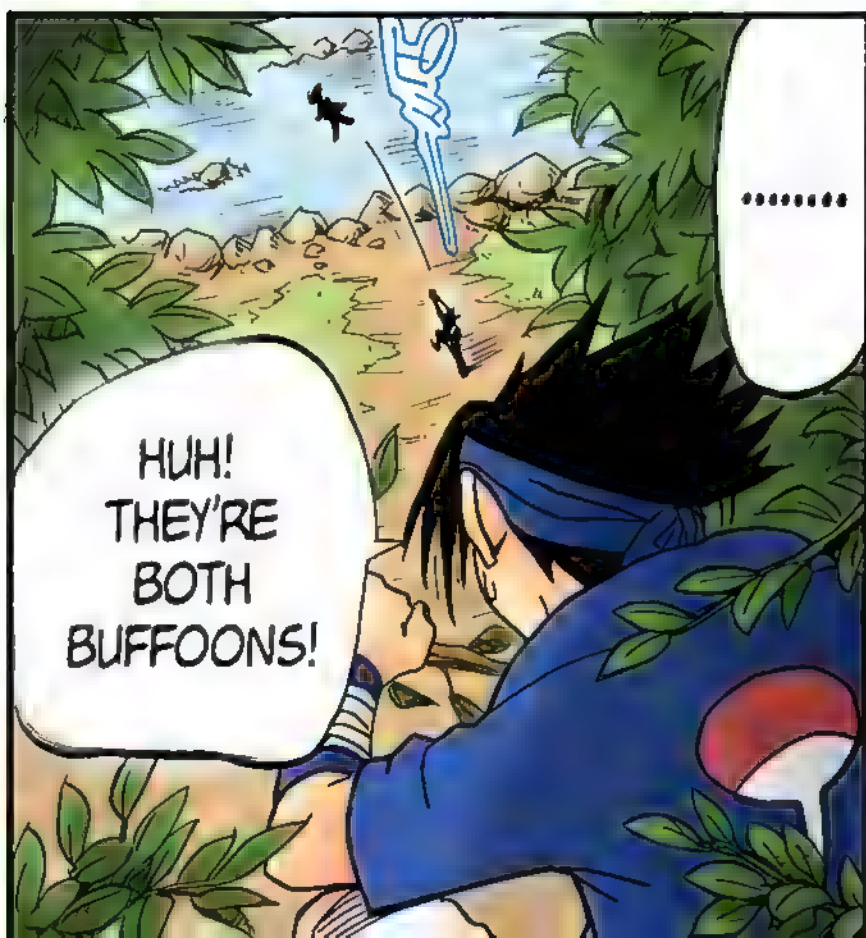
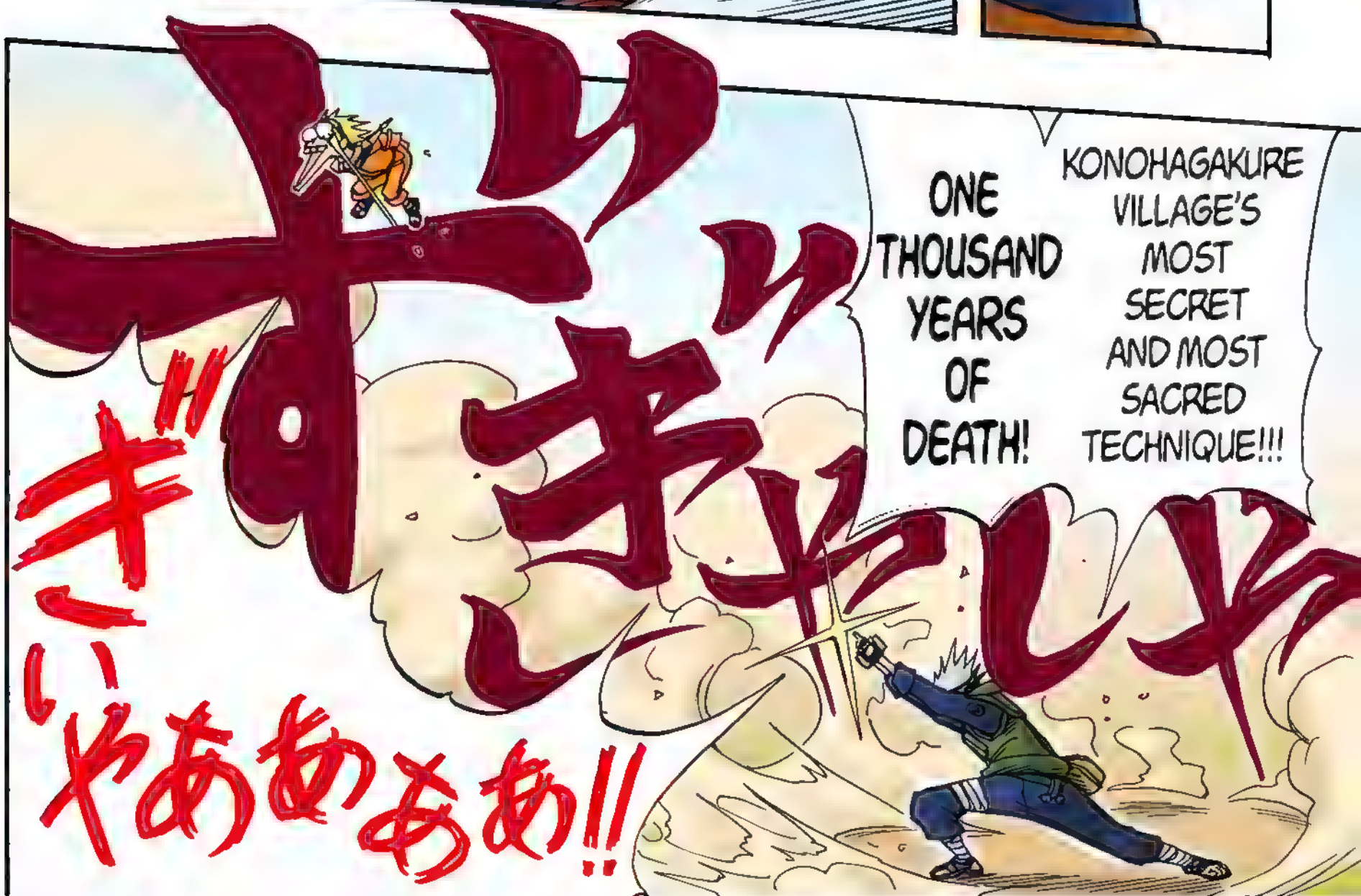
...YOUR
FIRST
NINJUTSU
SKILL !!

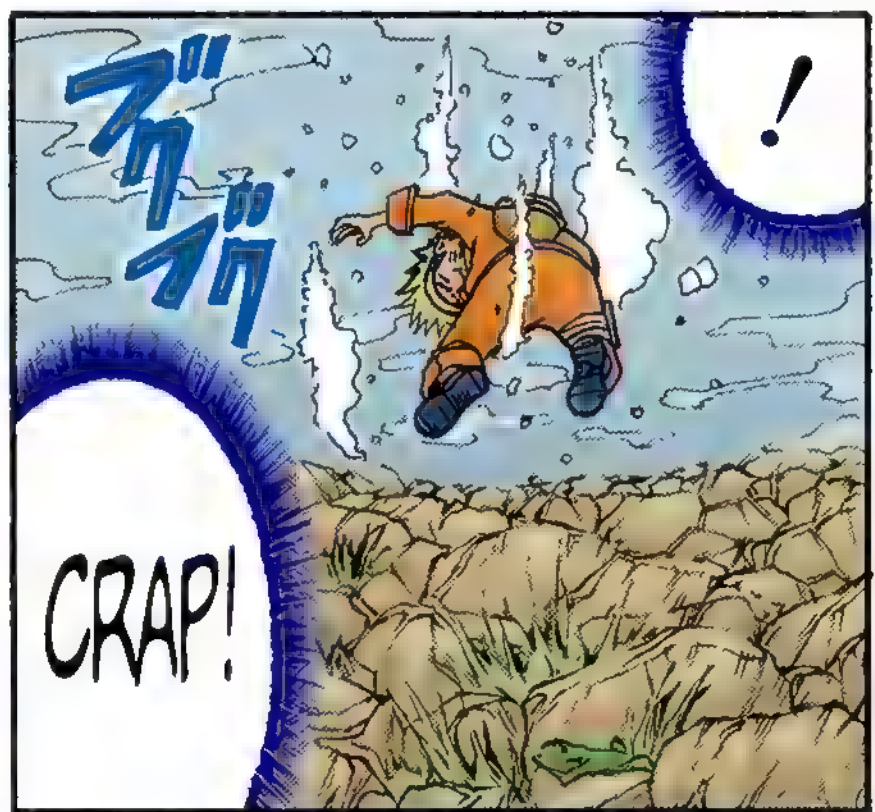
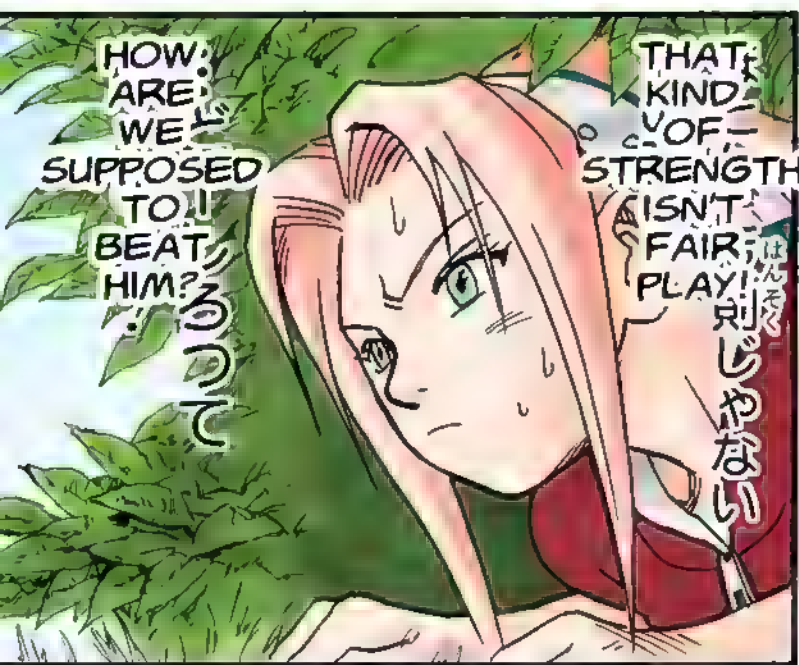
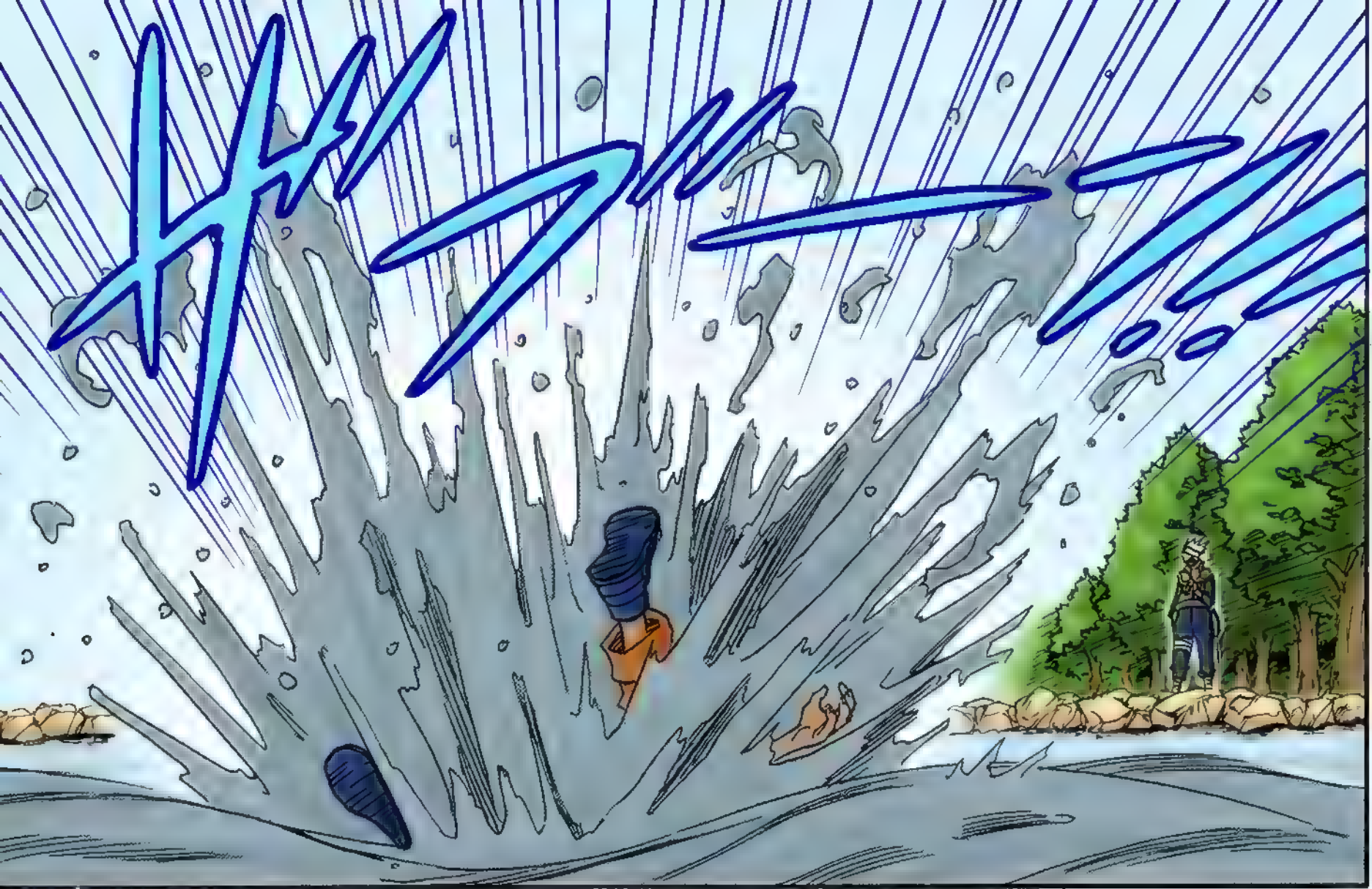


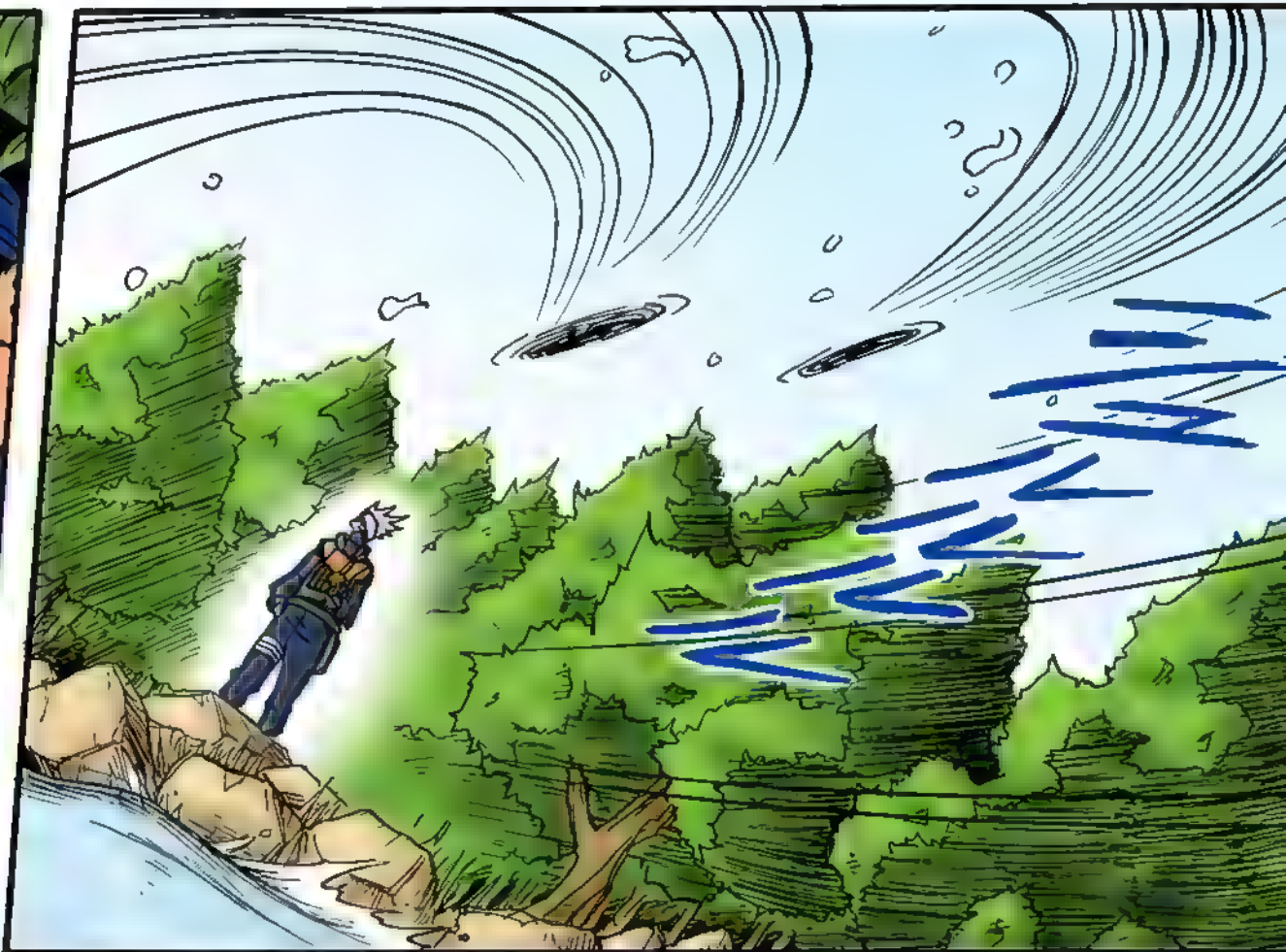
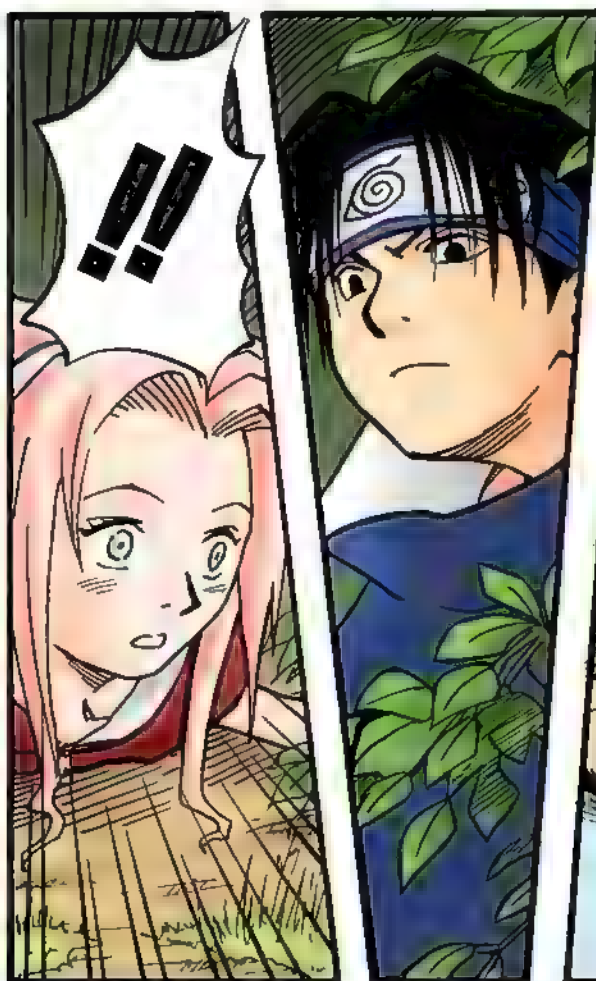
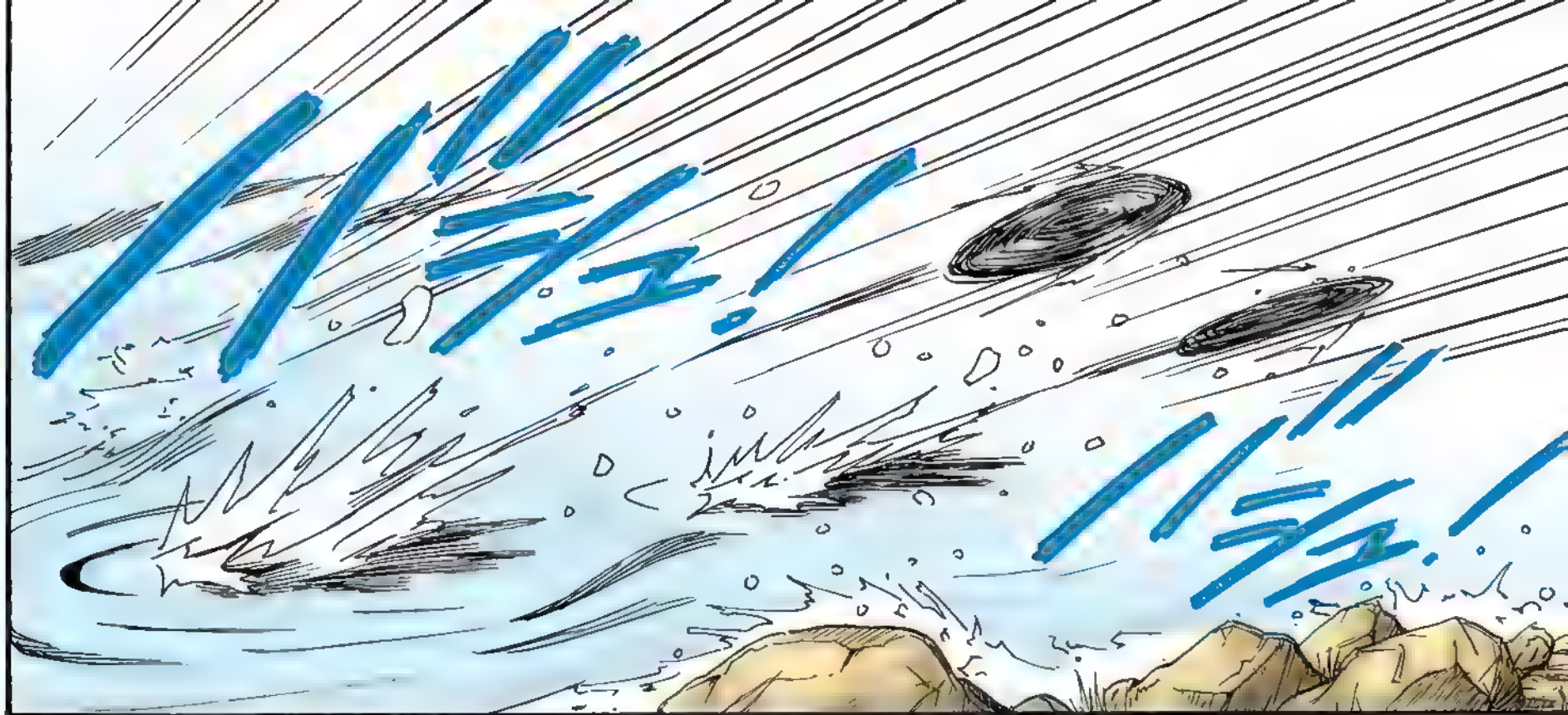














-KOFF-
KOFF!-



GET ONE OF THESE BELLS BY LUNCH, OR YOU'LL HAVE NO LUNCH!

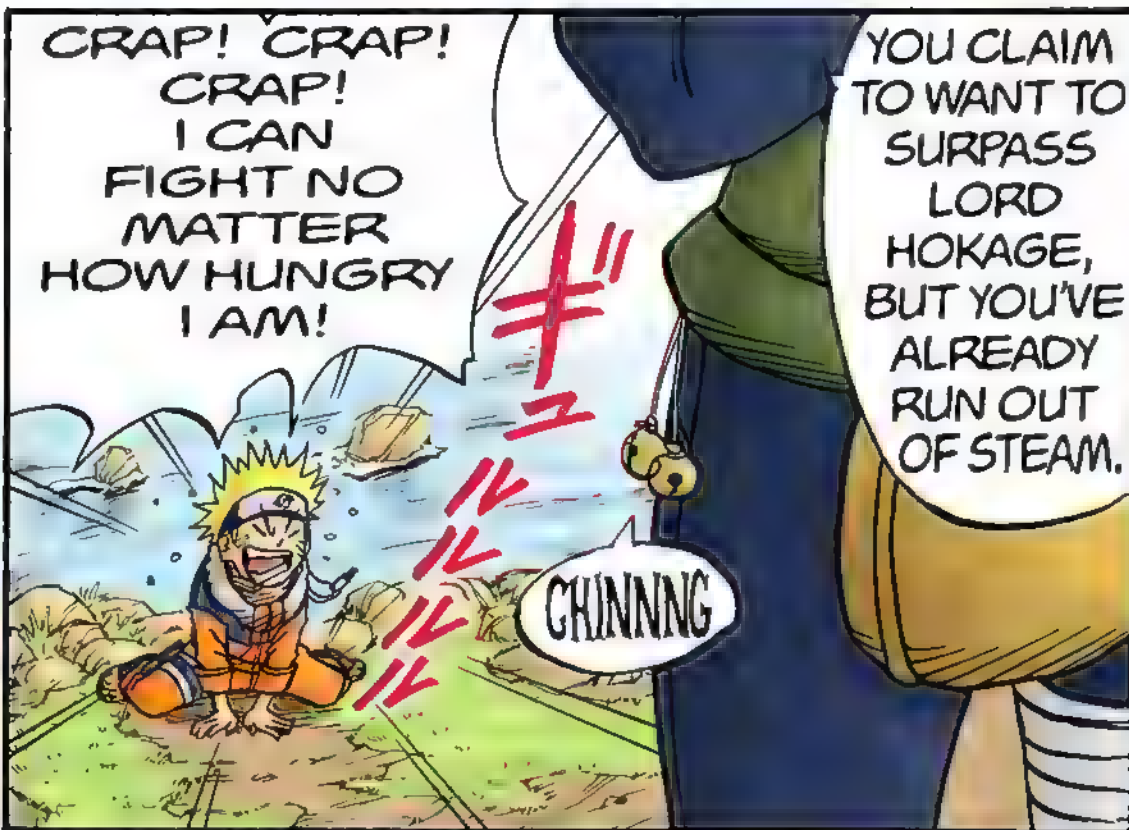
WELL? WHAT'S THE HOLD UP?

!!

'PUFF'

'HUFF'

'PUFF'



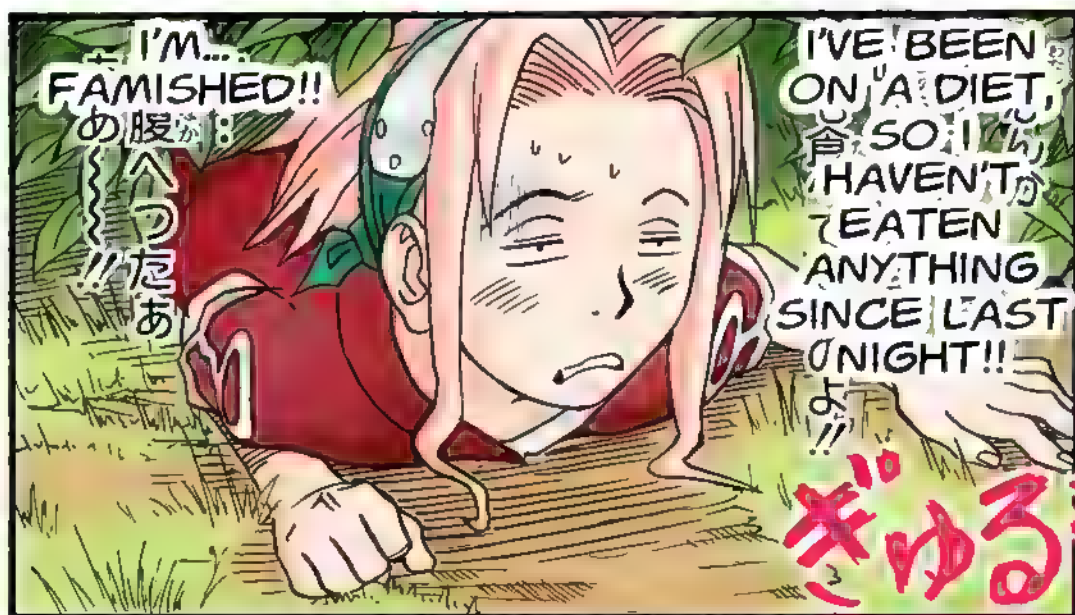
CRAP! CRAP!
CRAP!
I CAN FIGHT NO MATTER HOW HUNGRY I AM!

YOU CLAIM TO WANT TO SURPASS LORD HOKAGE, BUT YOU'VE ALREADY RUN OUT OF STEAM.

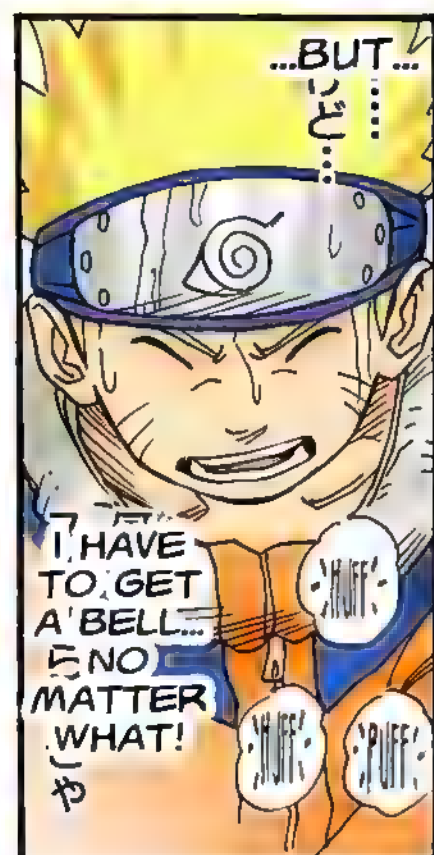
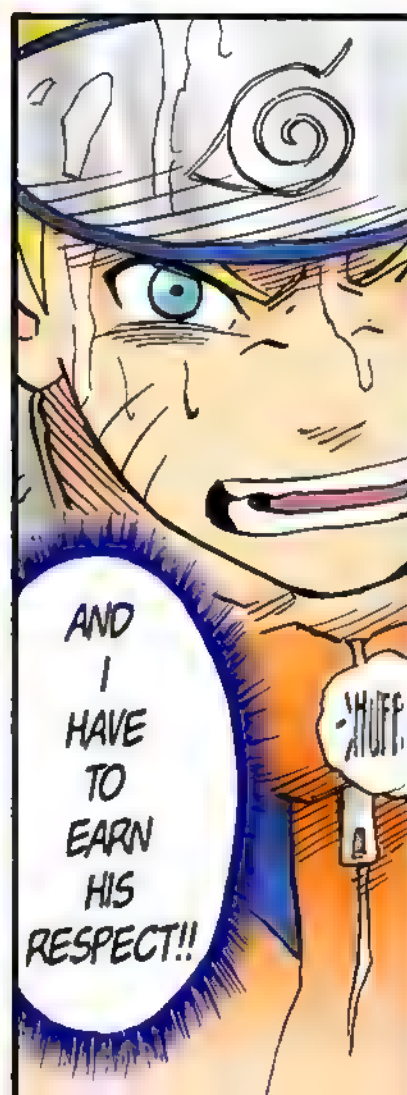
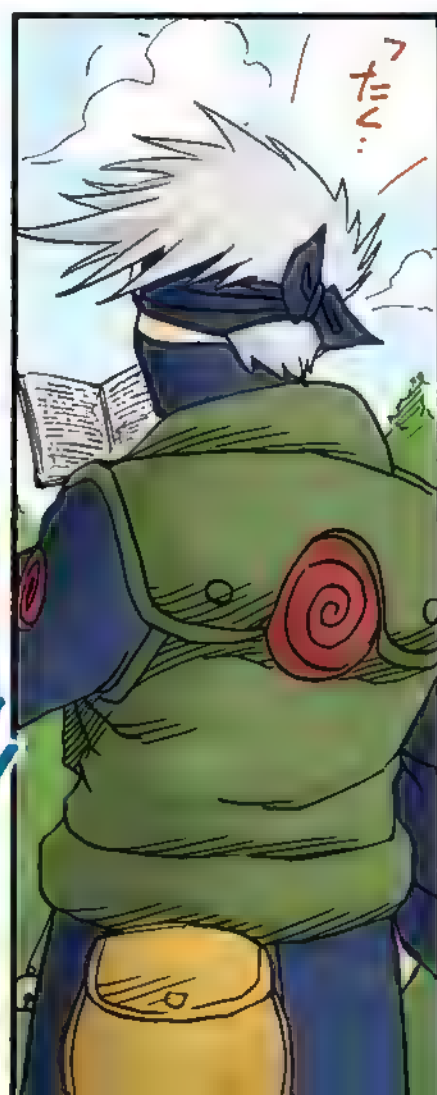
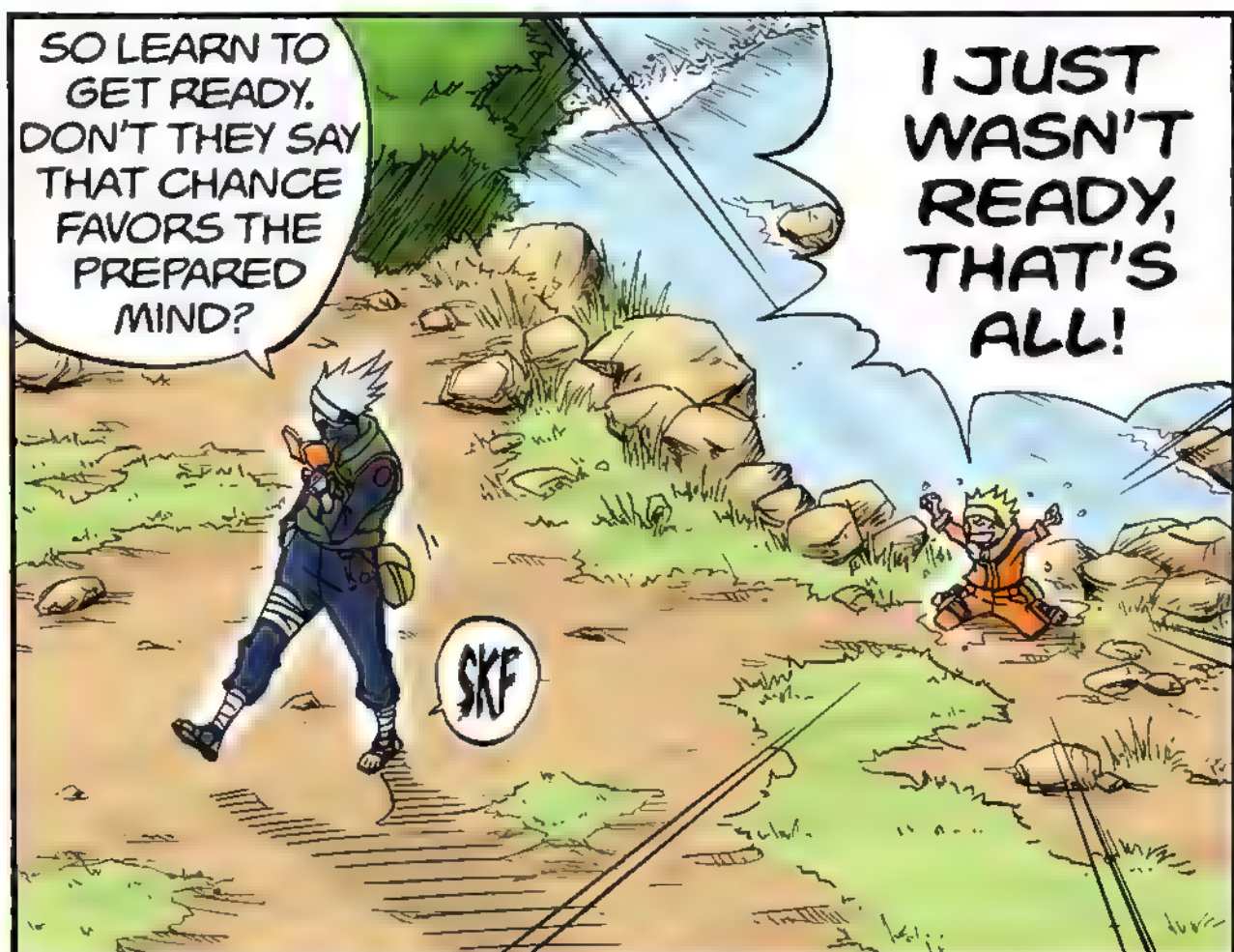
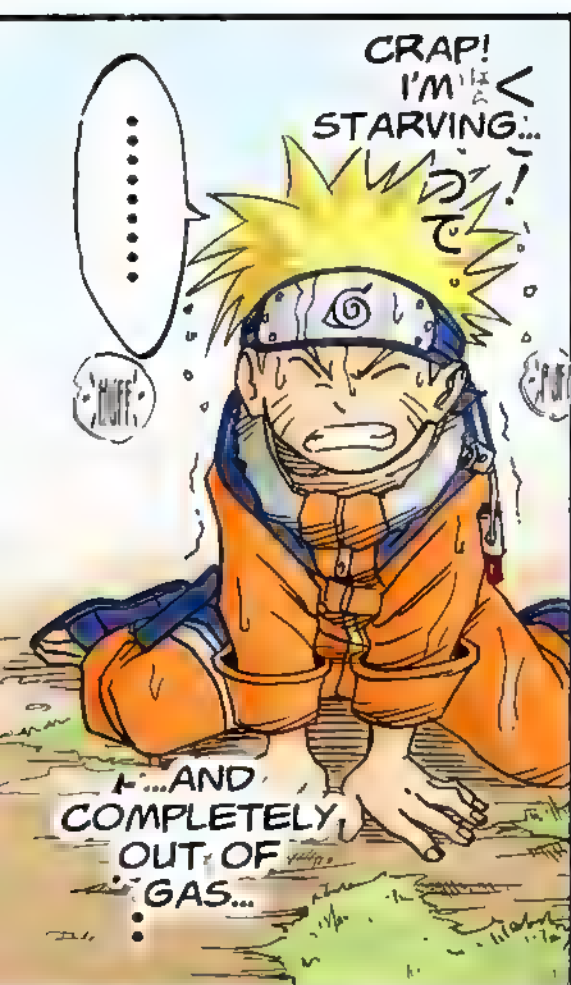
CHINING

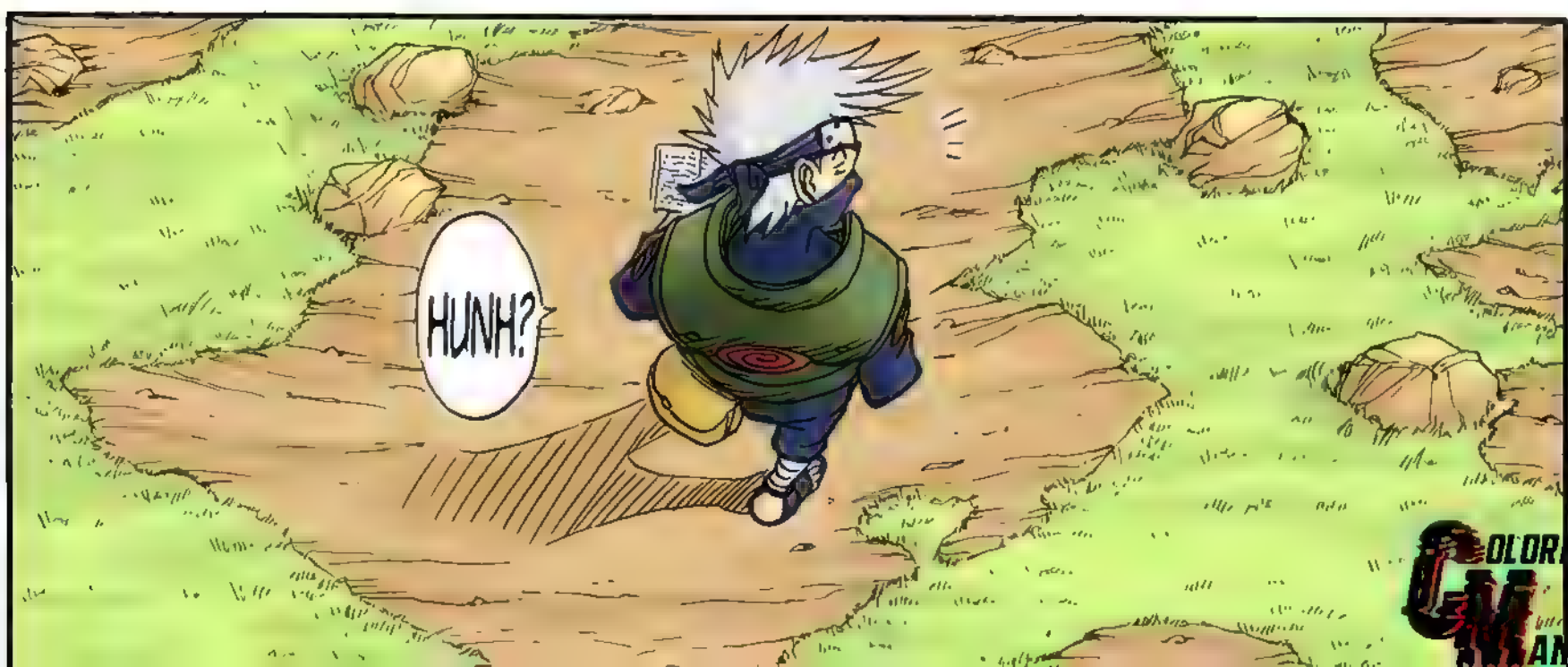


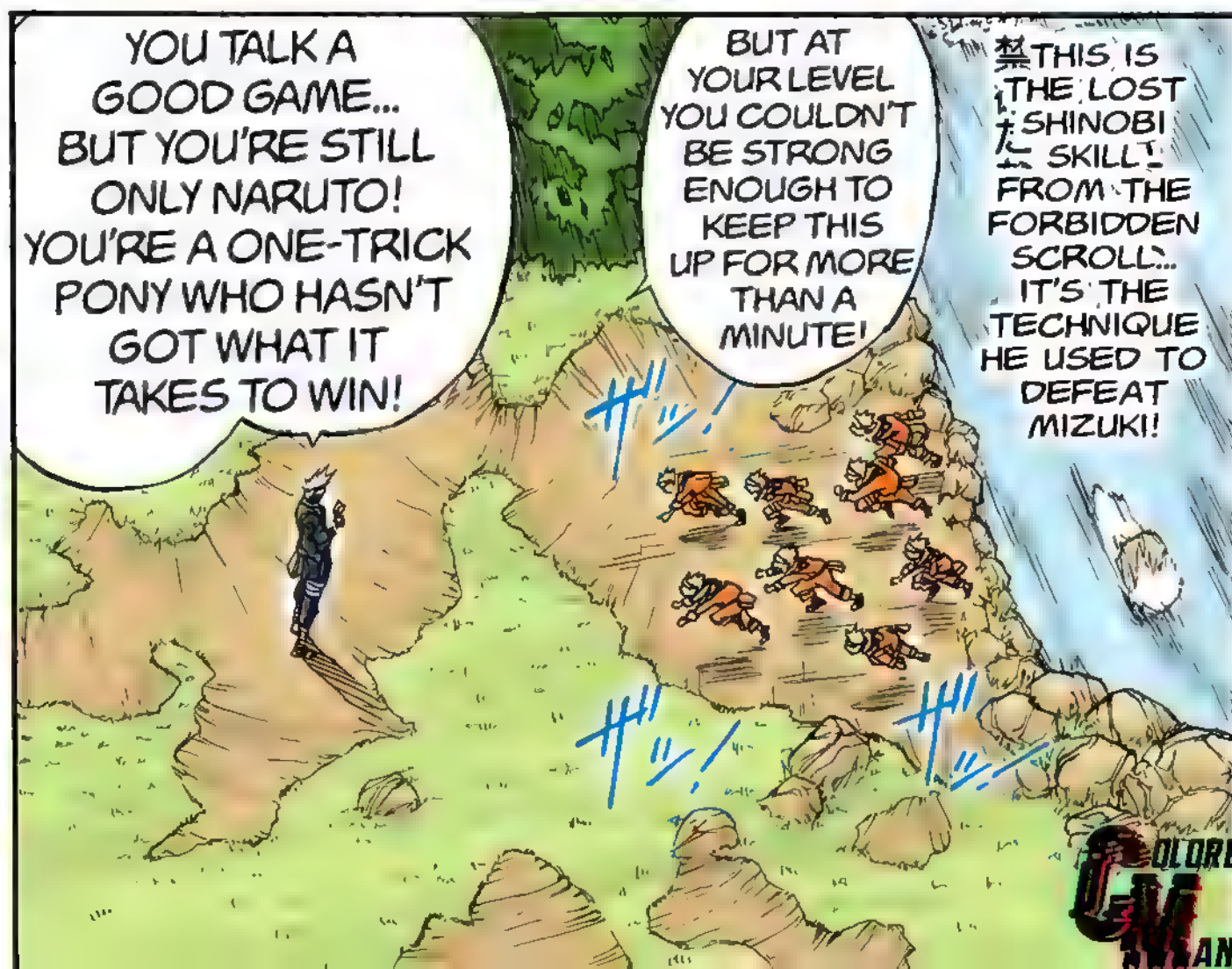
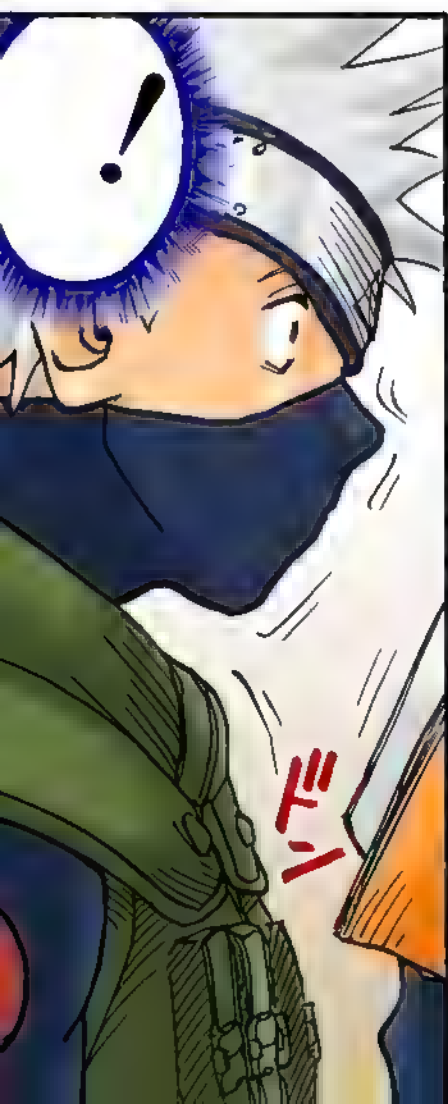
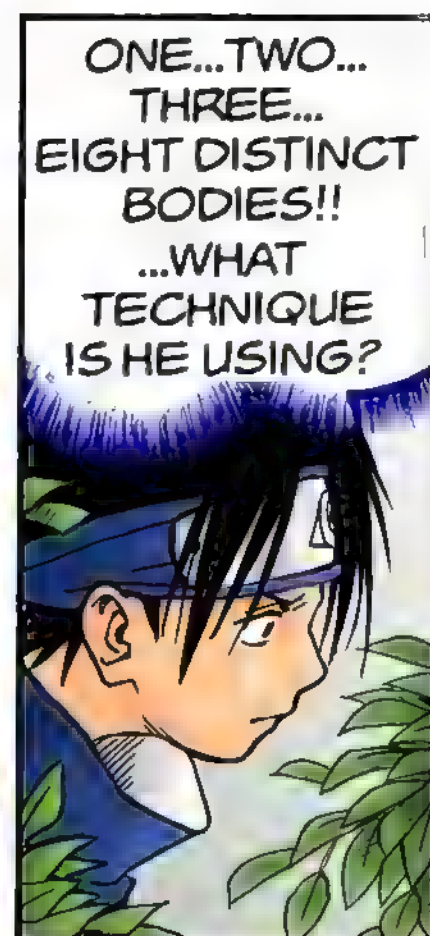
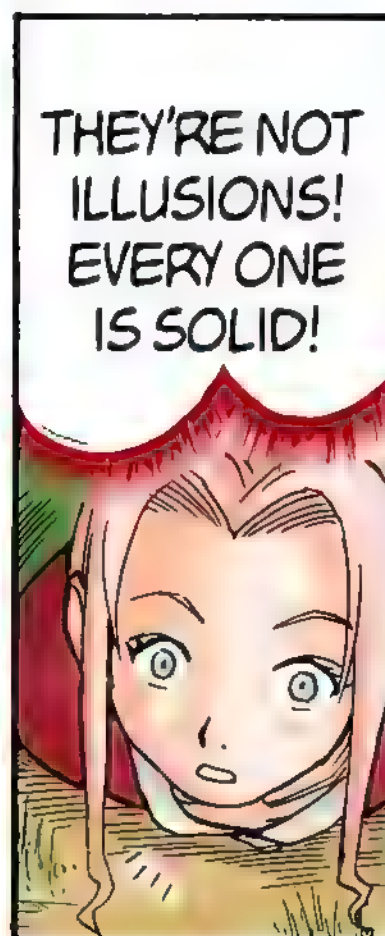
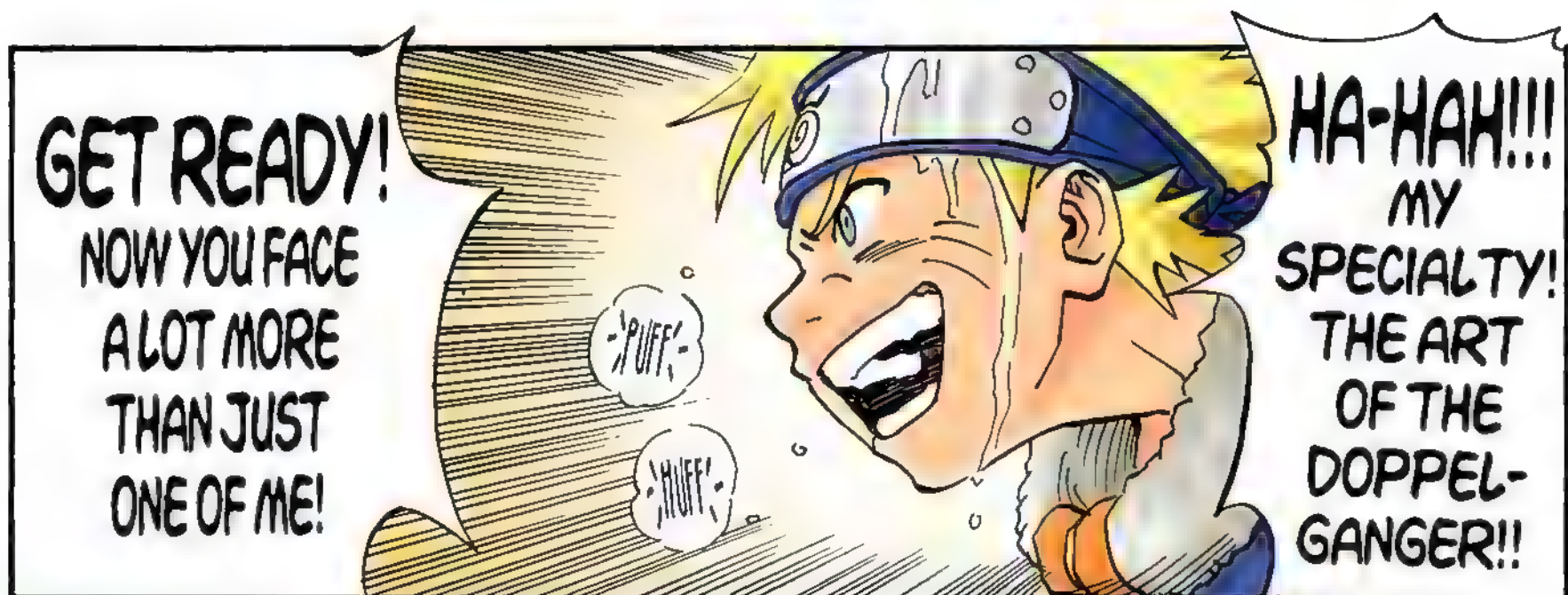
DUH!
I KNOW THAT!

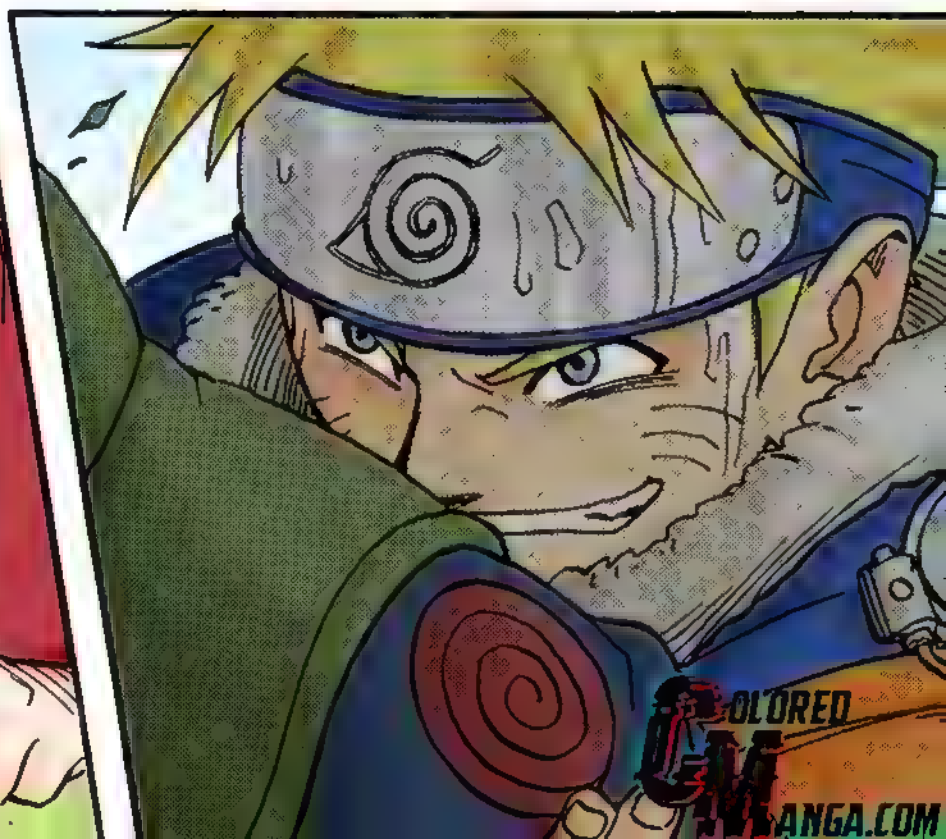
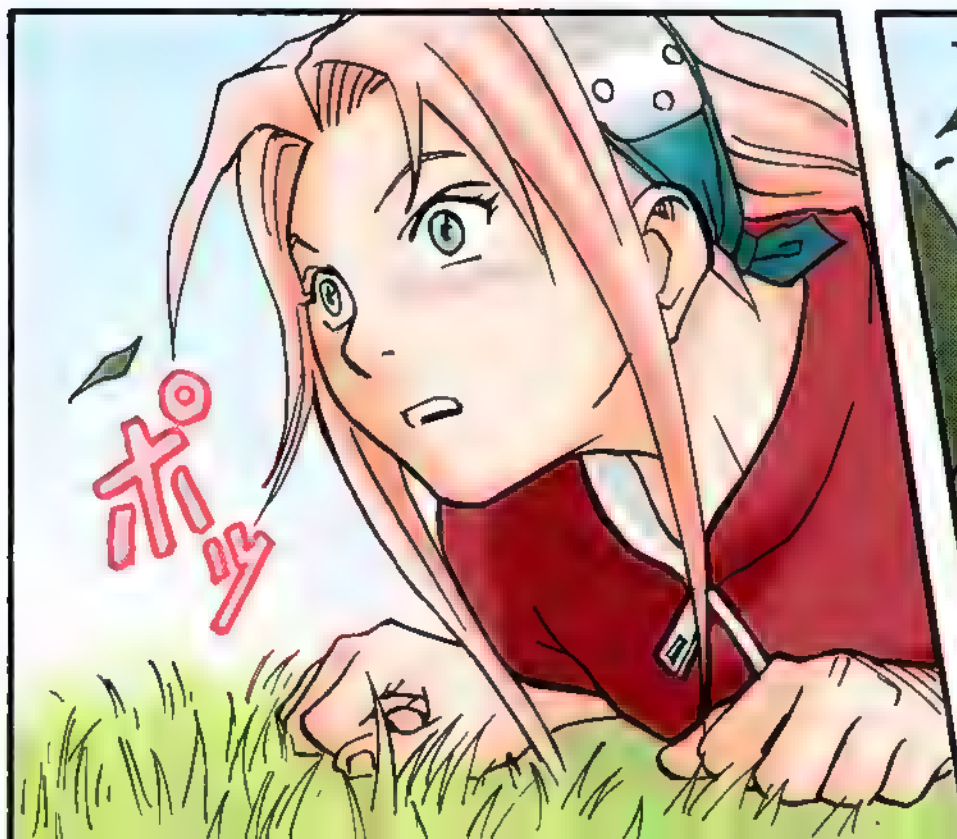


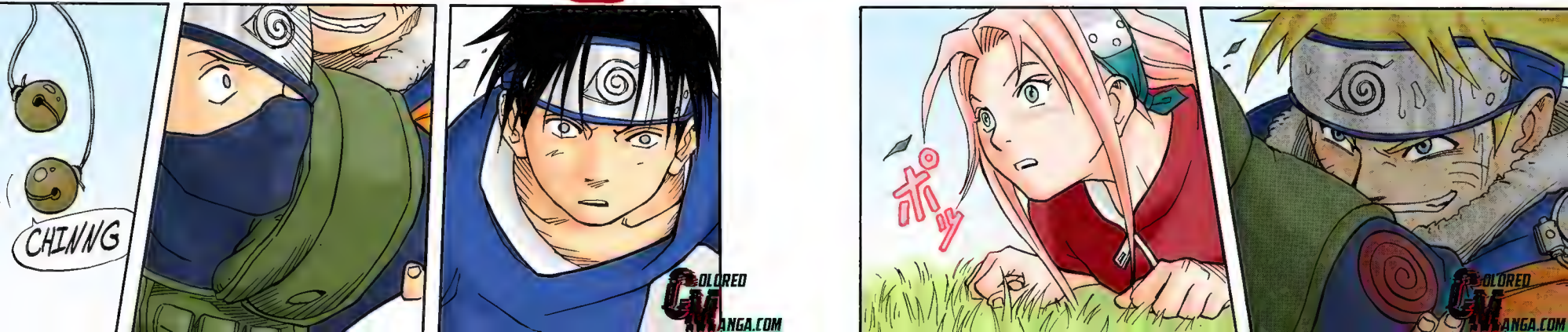
ぎゅるるるる

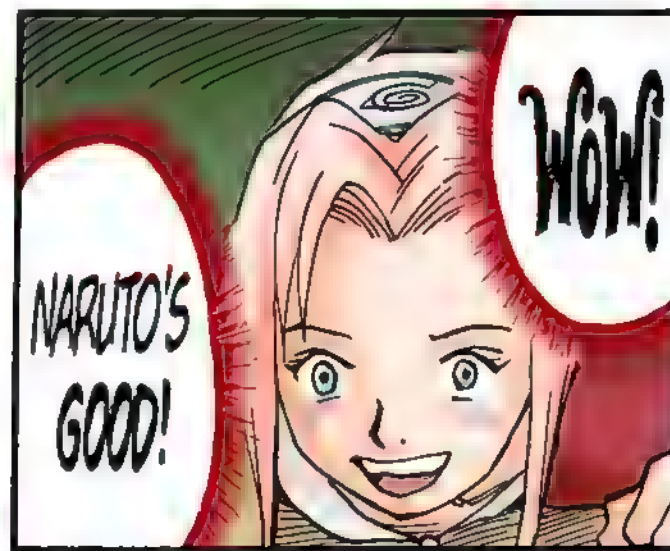
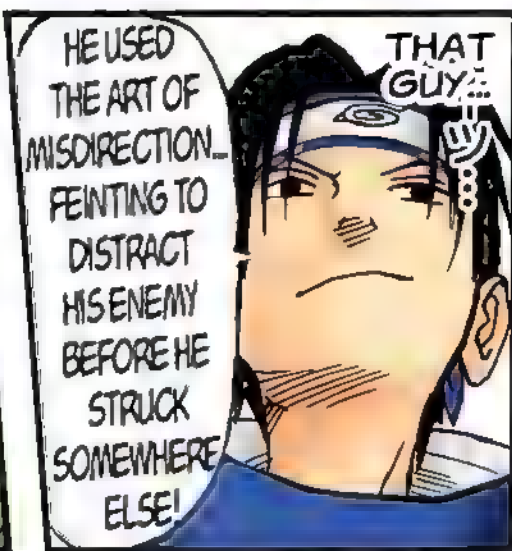
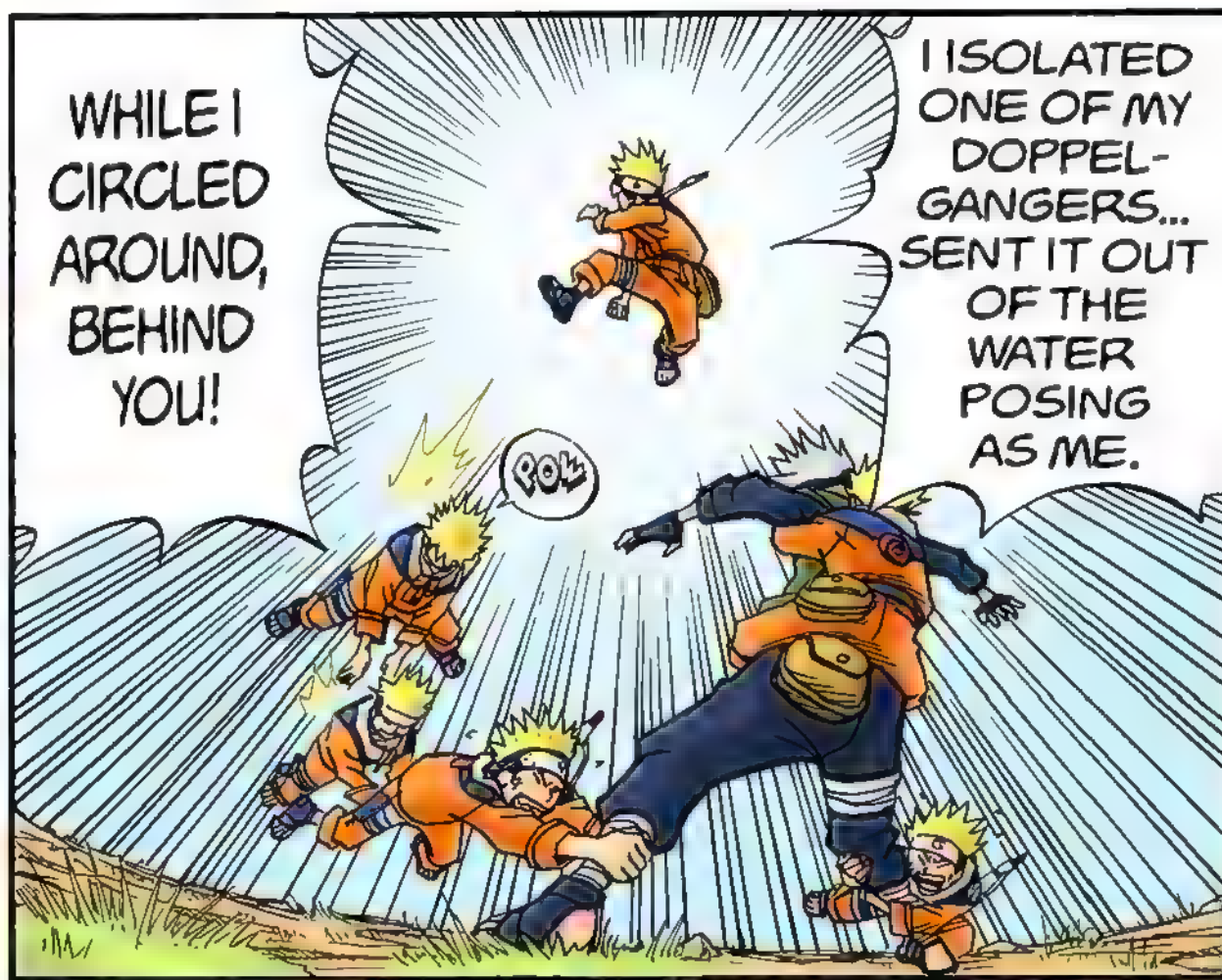


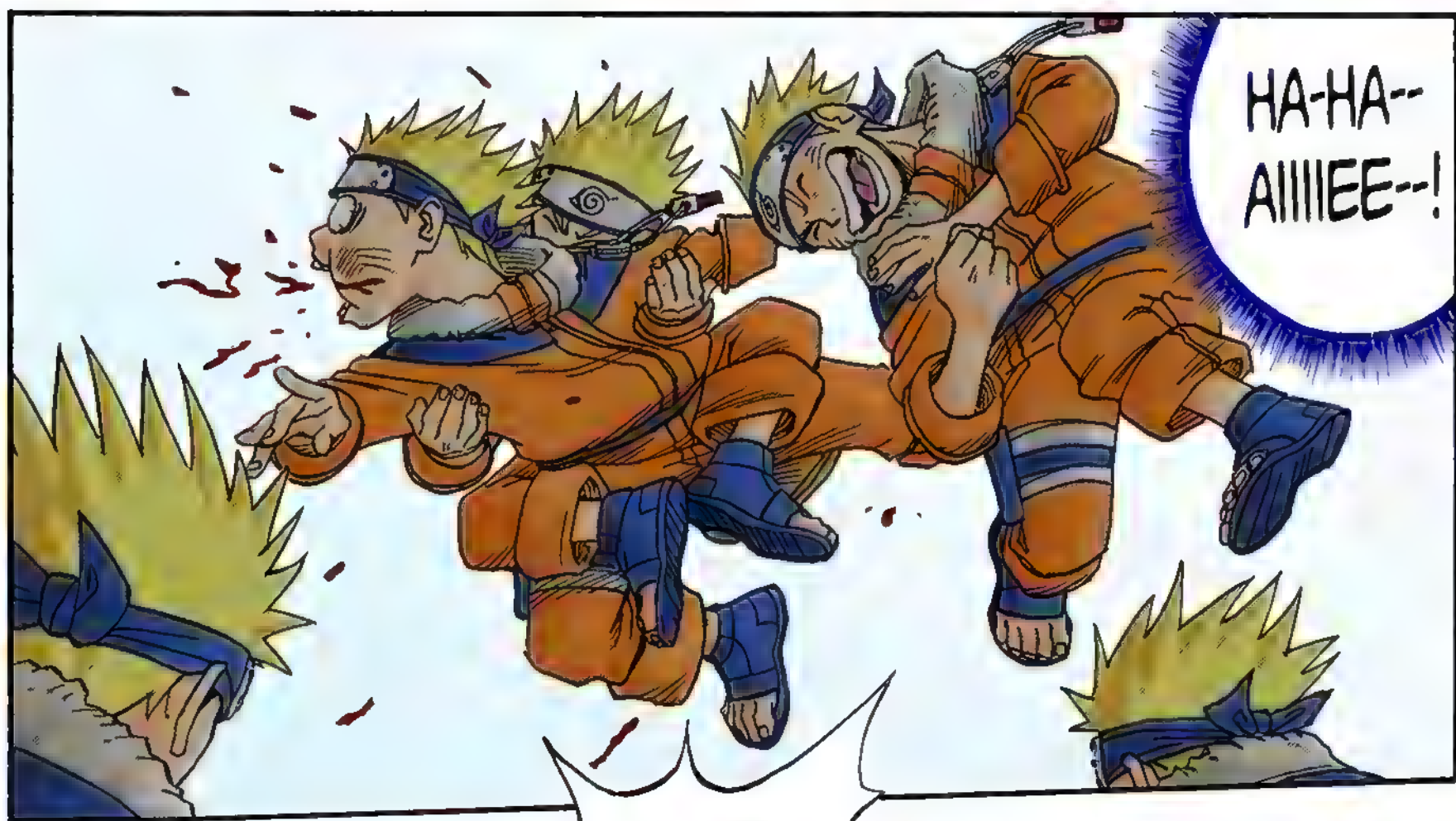
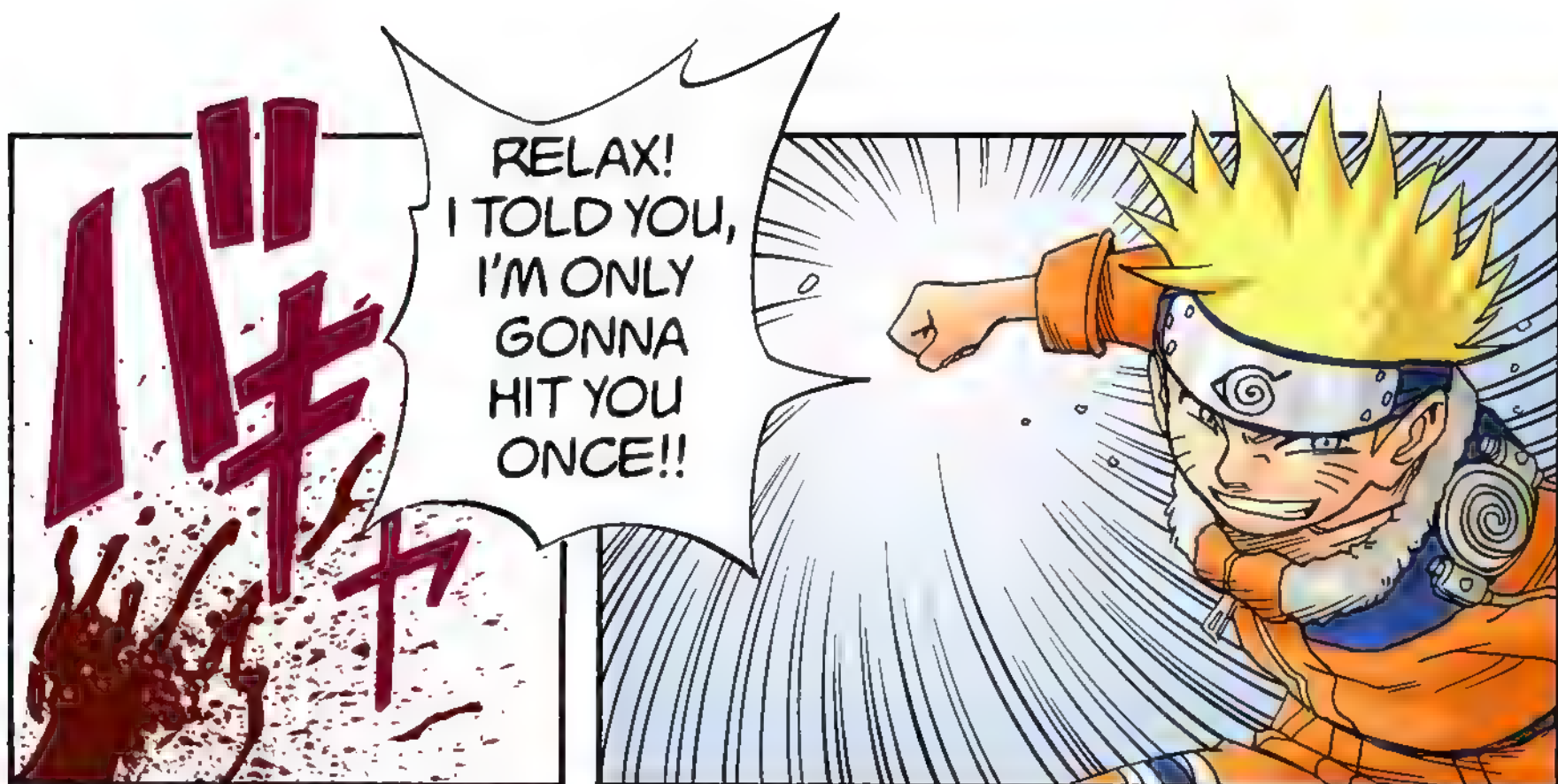












AN ANECDOTE by Masashi Kishimoto

Coming from the country, I grew up surrounded by the beauties of nature, trees, plants, and open ground. So moving to Tokyo was quite a shock. There was hardly a plant or a natural setting to be found. I had to do something to create the country atmosphere and keep myself from feeling homesick. Something that would soothe me enough that I could concentrate on creating good manga. So I decided to buy a houseplant for my desk.

Kishimoto: "From now on, you're my partner!"

I even gave my plant a name: *Ukki-kun*, as in "Mr. Ukki."

Kishimoto: "Well, Ukki, you look very shiny and green today!"

Ukki: "....."

Kishimoto: "It was a good day for photosynthesis, huh?"

Ukki: "....."

Kishimoto: "Today I'm going to give you an excellent fertilizer for vigorous growth!"

We were a super-team.

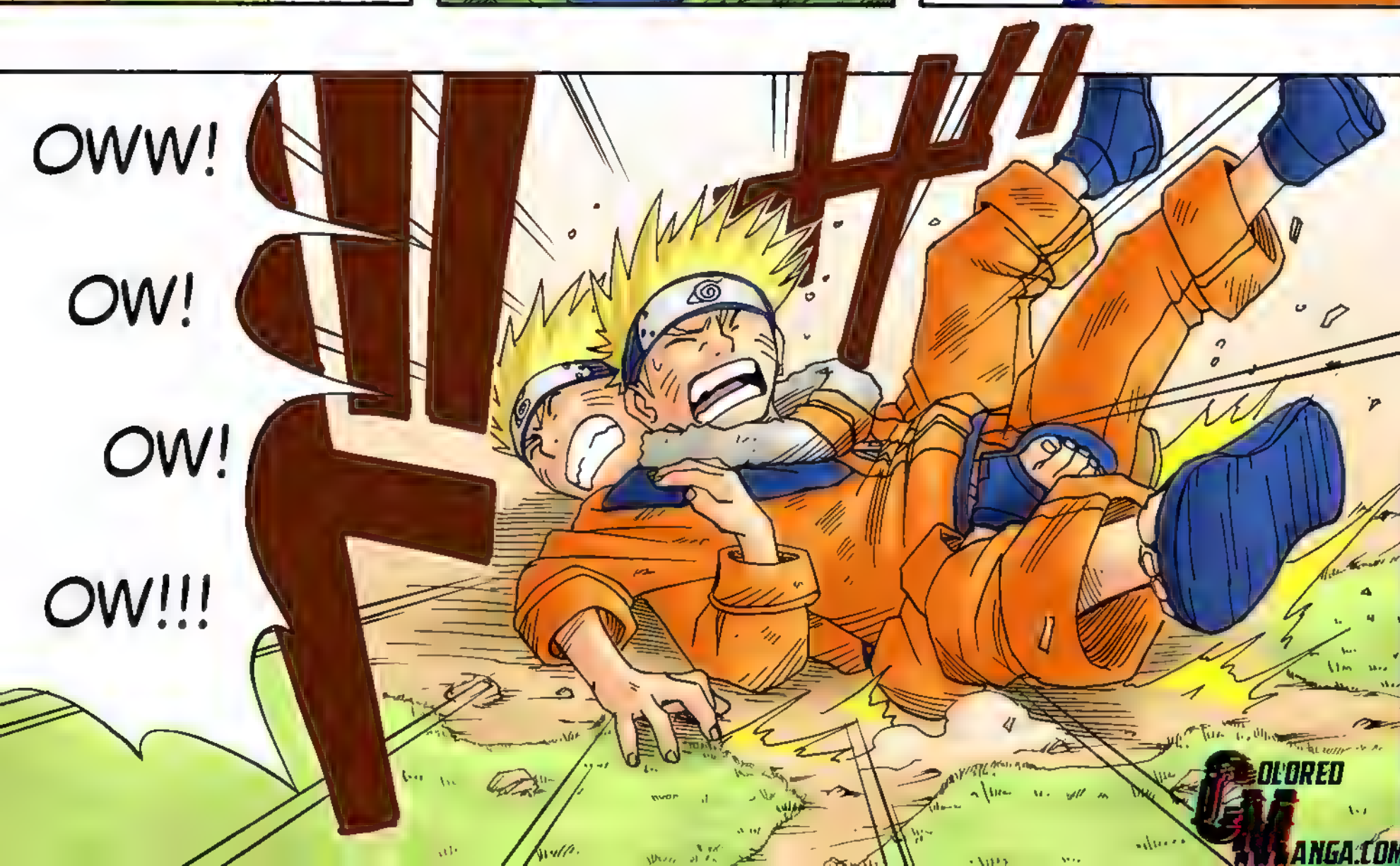
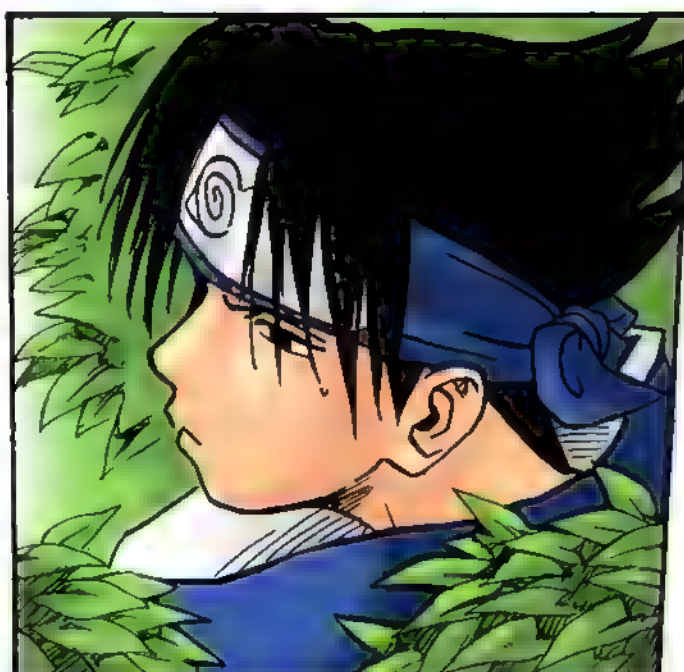
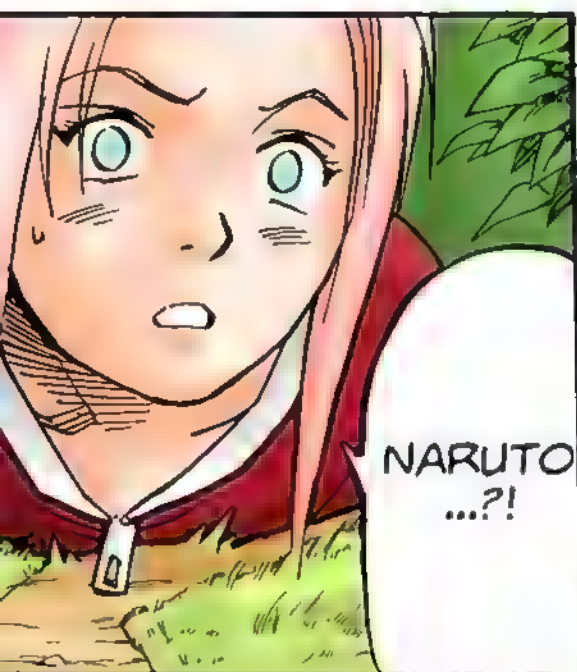
Assistant A: "What is this, Mr. Kishimoto? How did your plant get all dried out?"

Kishimoto: "What are you saying?! I gave Ukki the best care!"

Assistant A: "You mean this? This fertilizer is concentrated, so you need to dilute it a lot. Oh no! You mean you didn't dilute it?!"

Sigh...





ナンバー



6

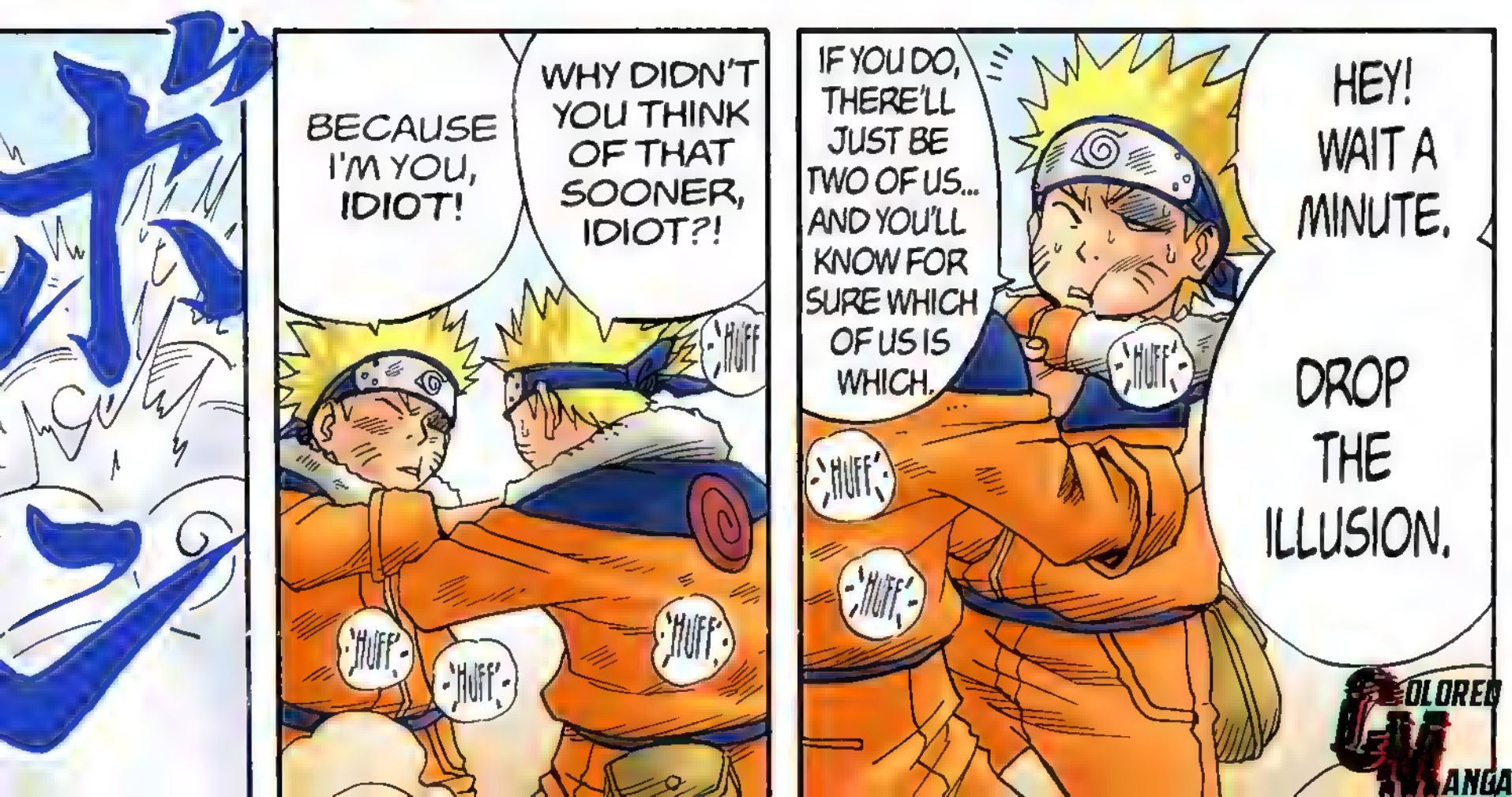
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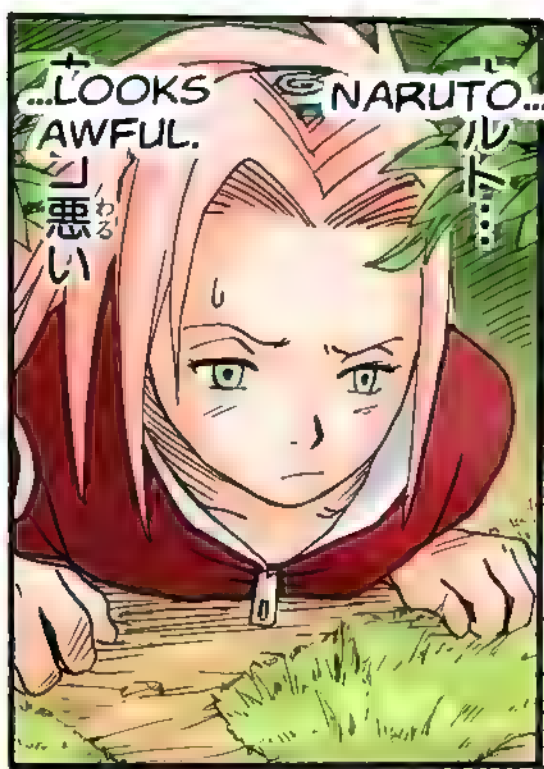
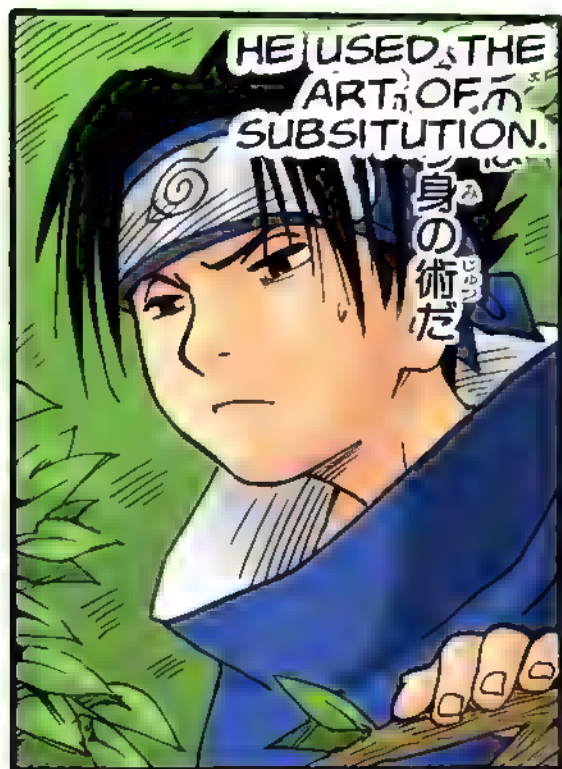
くん
サスケ君に

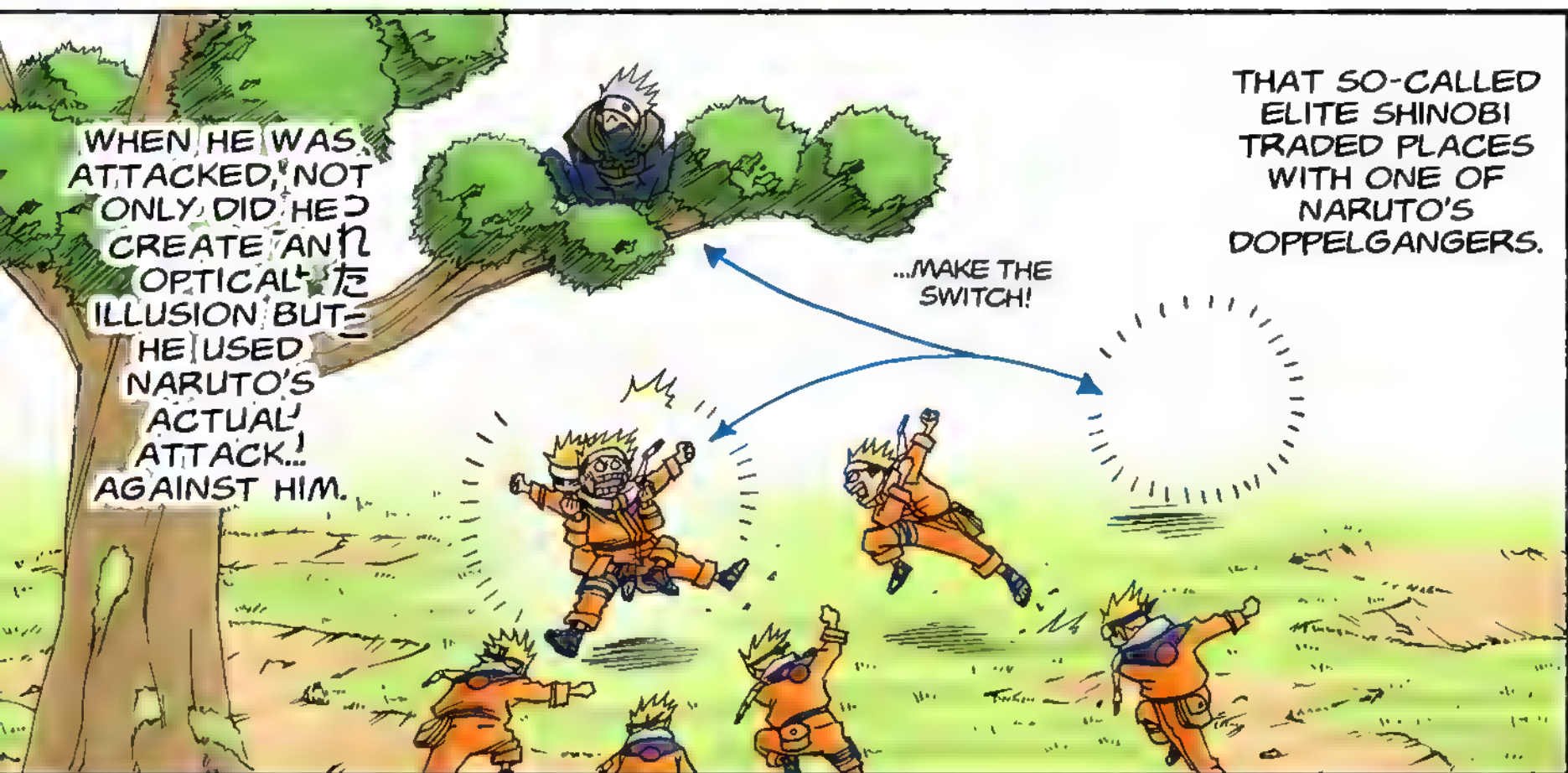
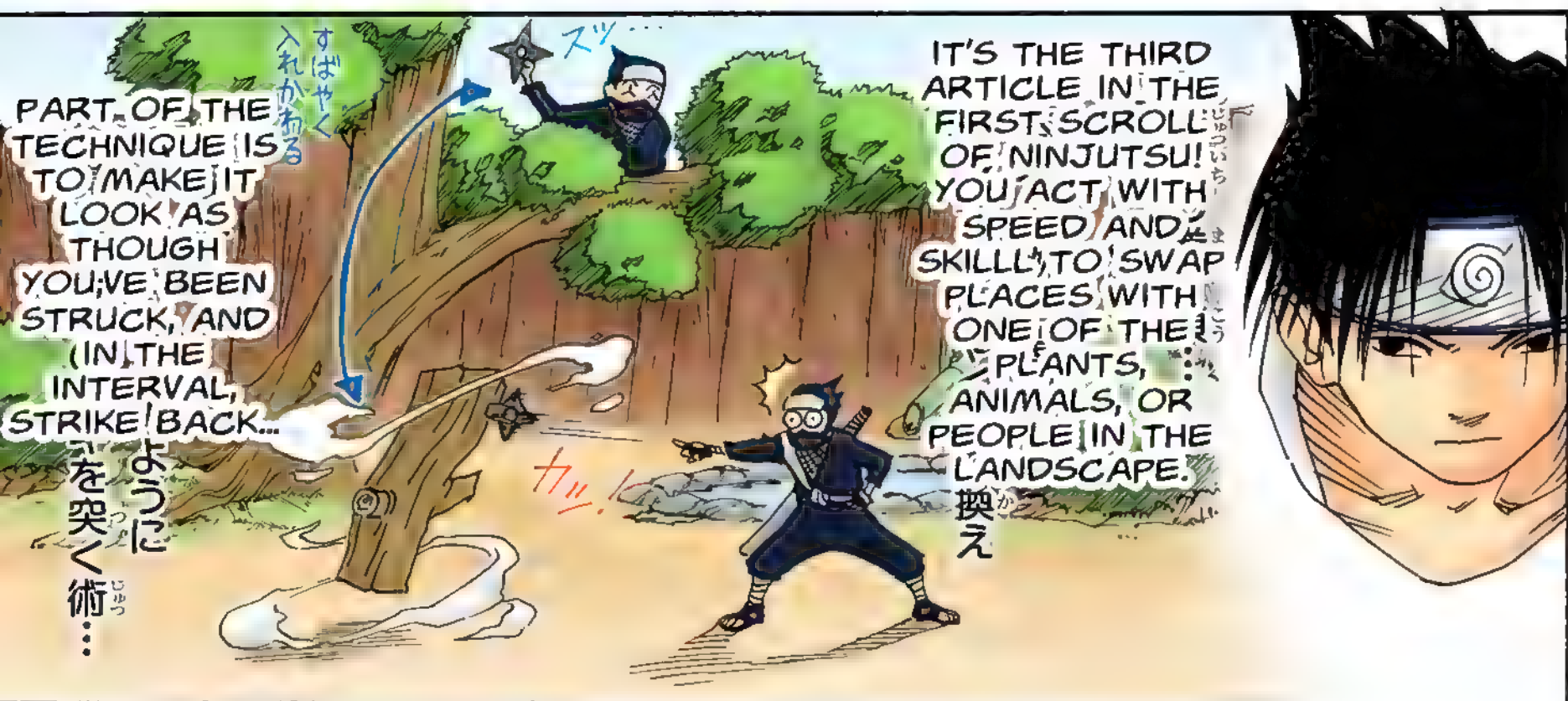
かぎ

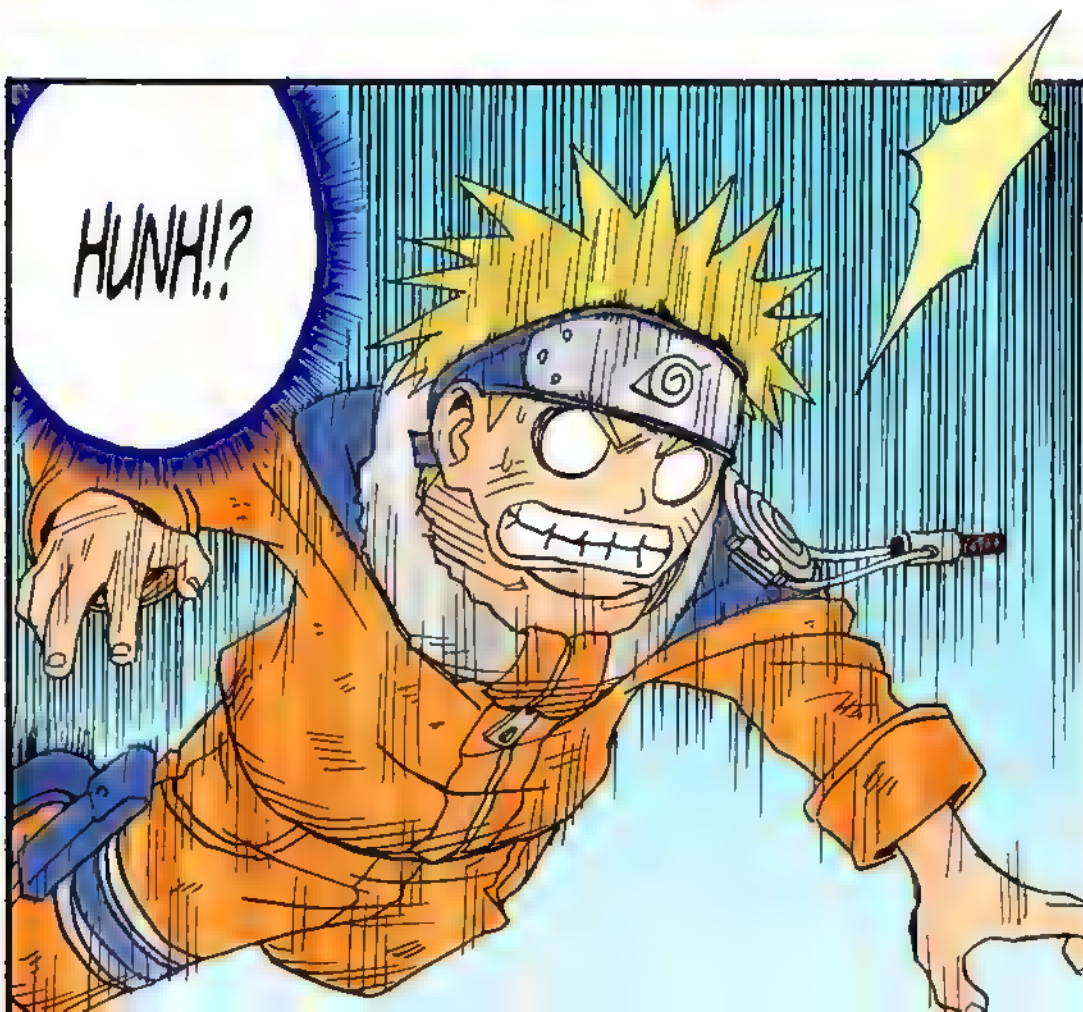
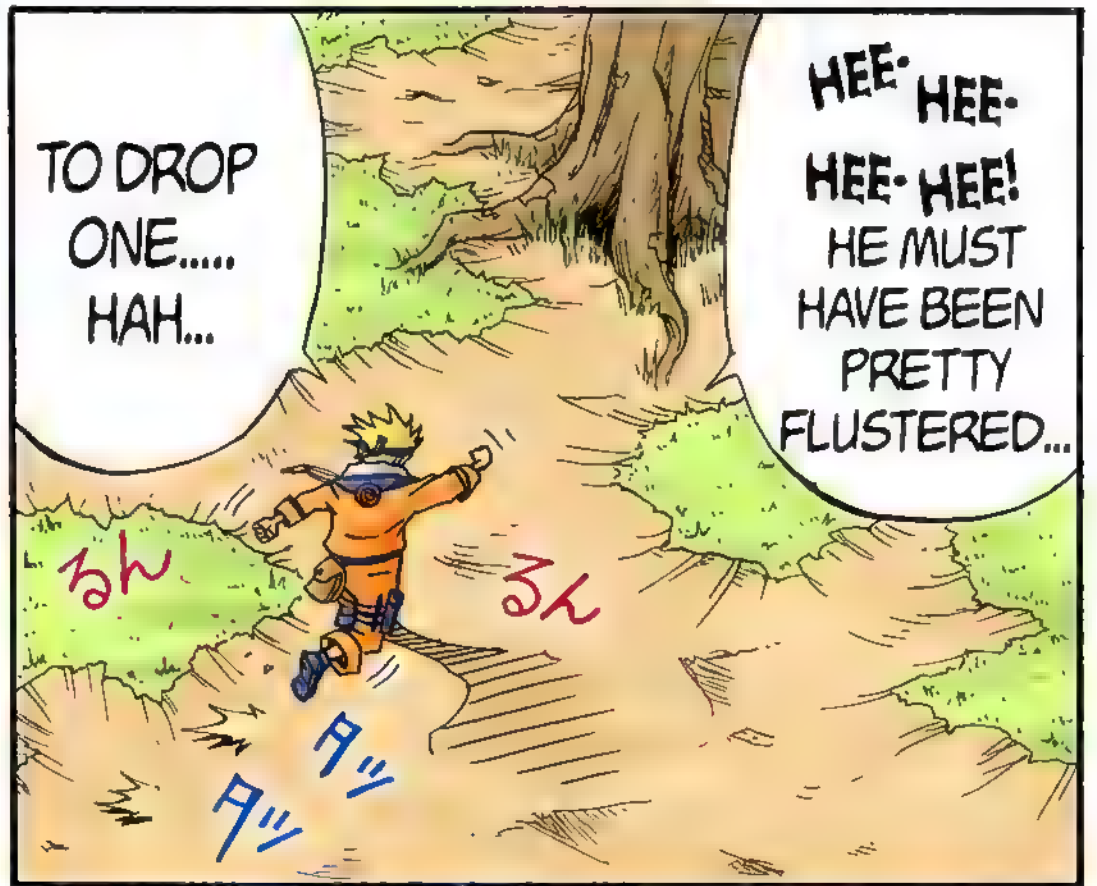
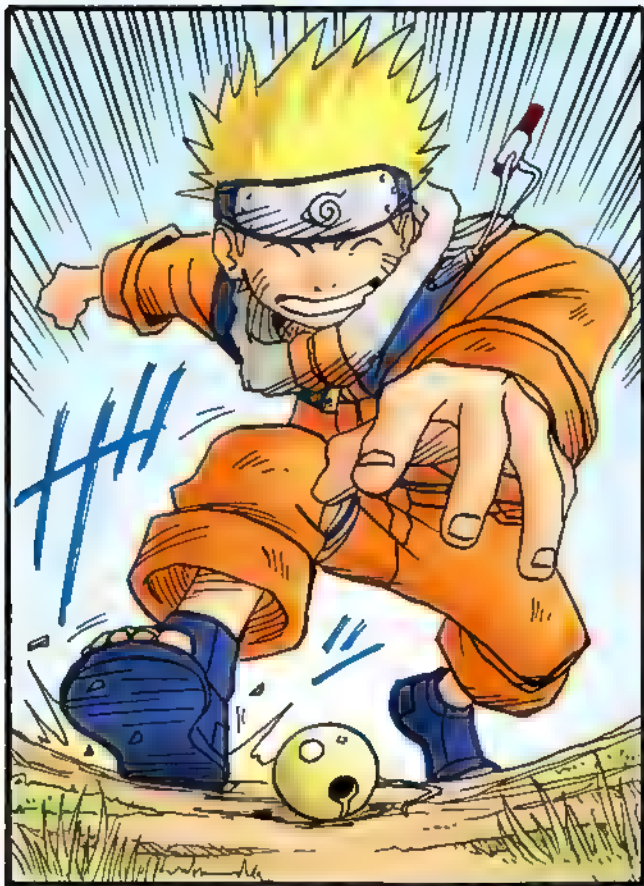
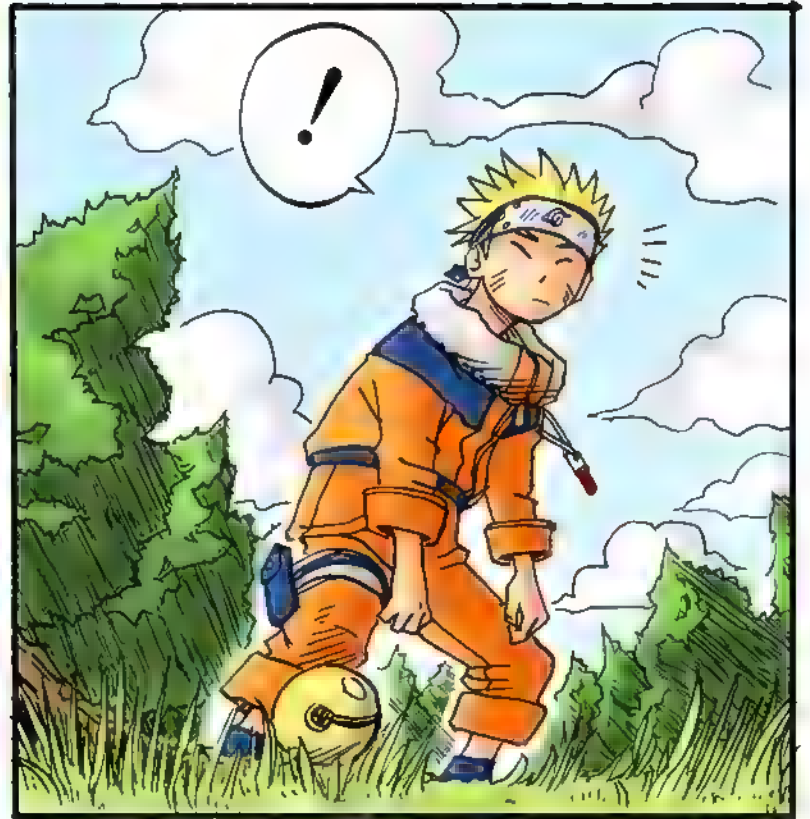
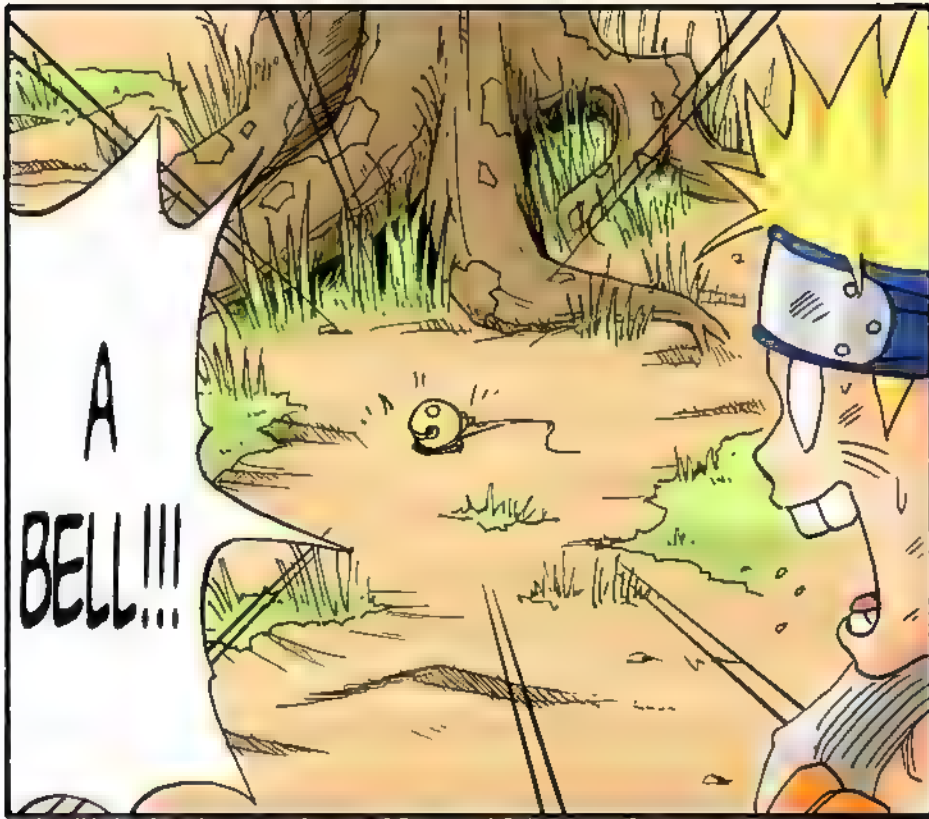
限って...!!

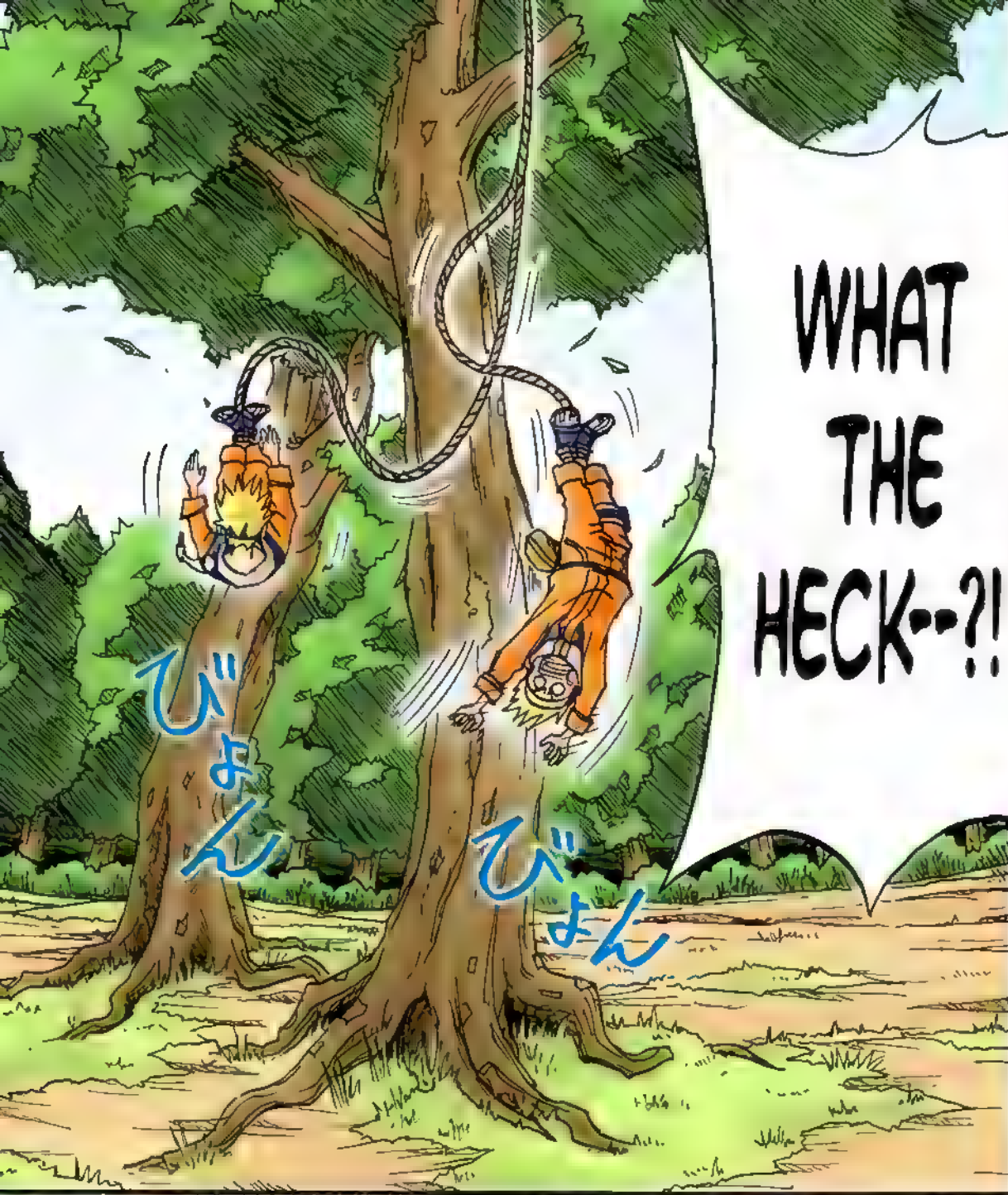




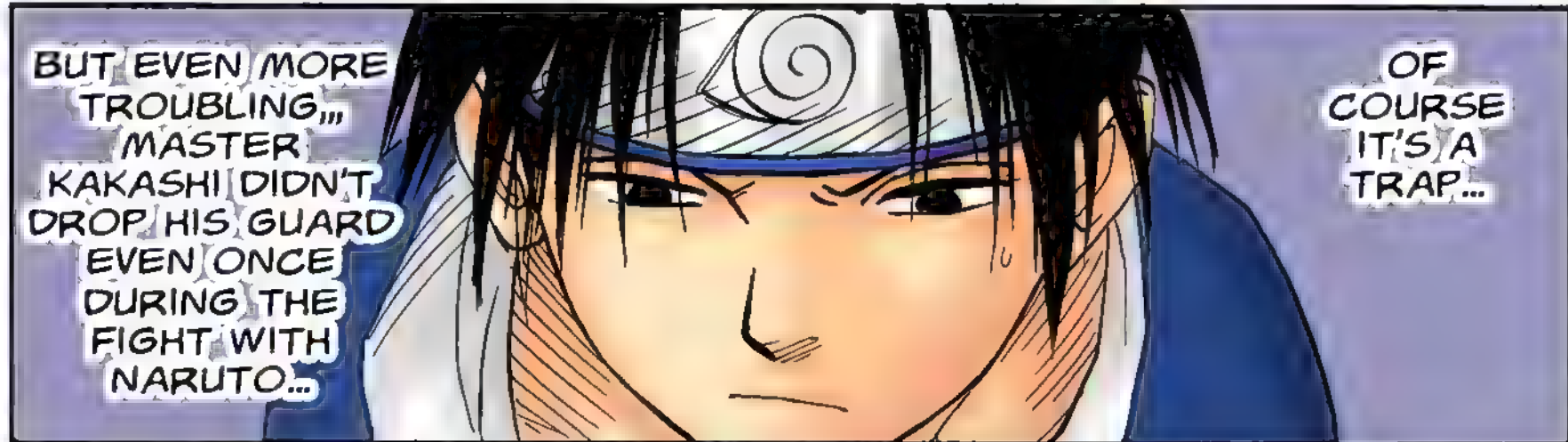
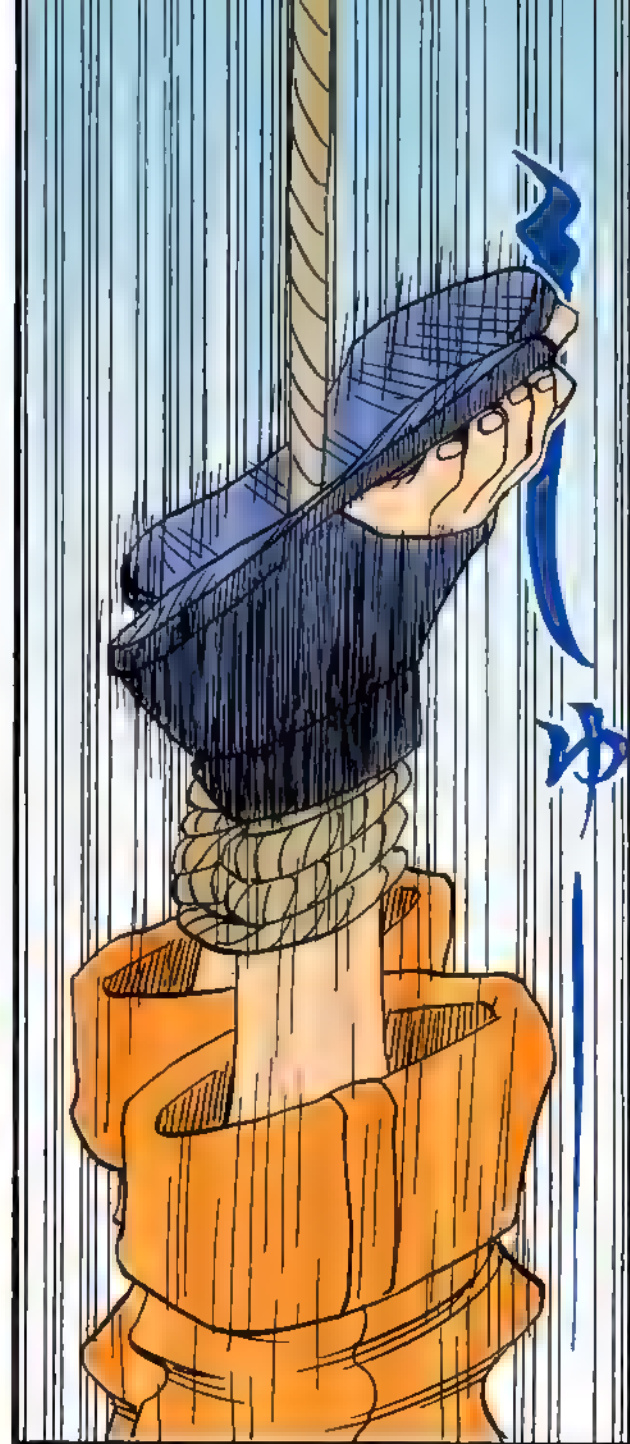






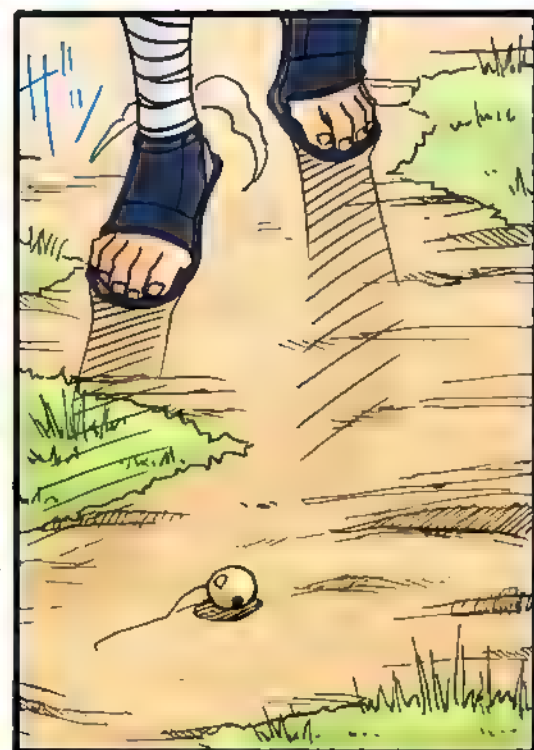
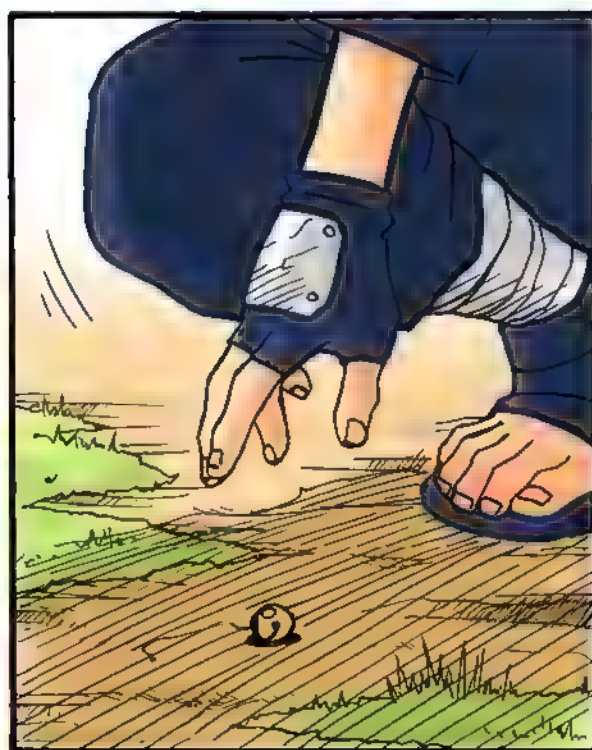
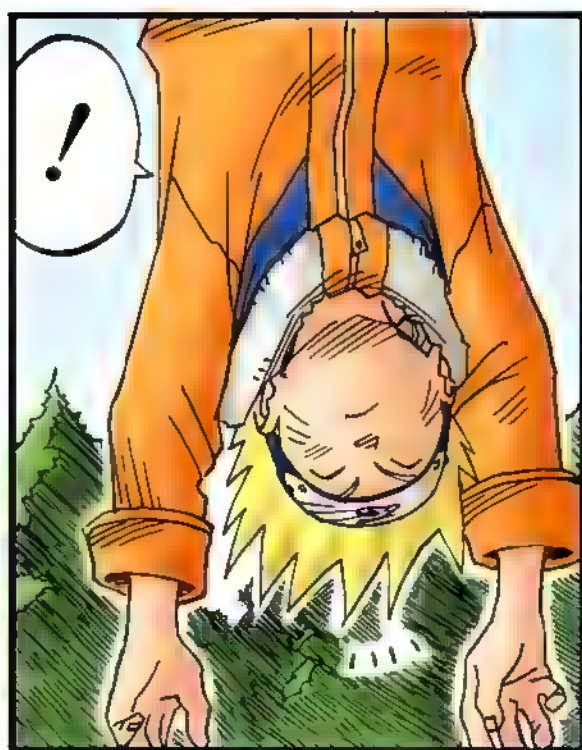


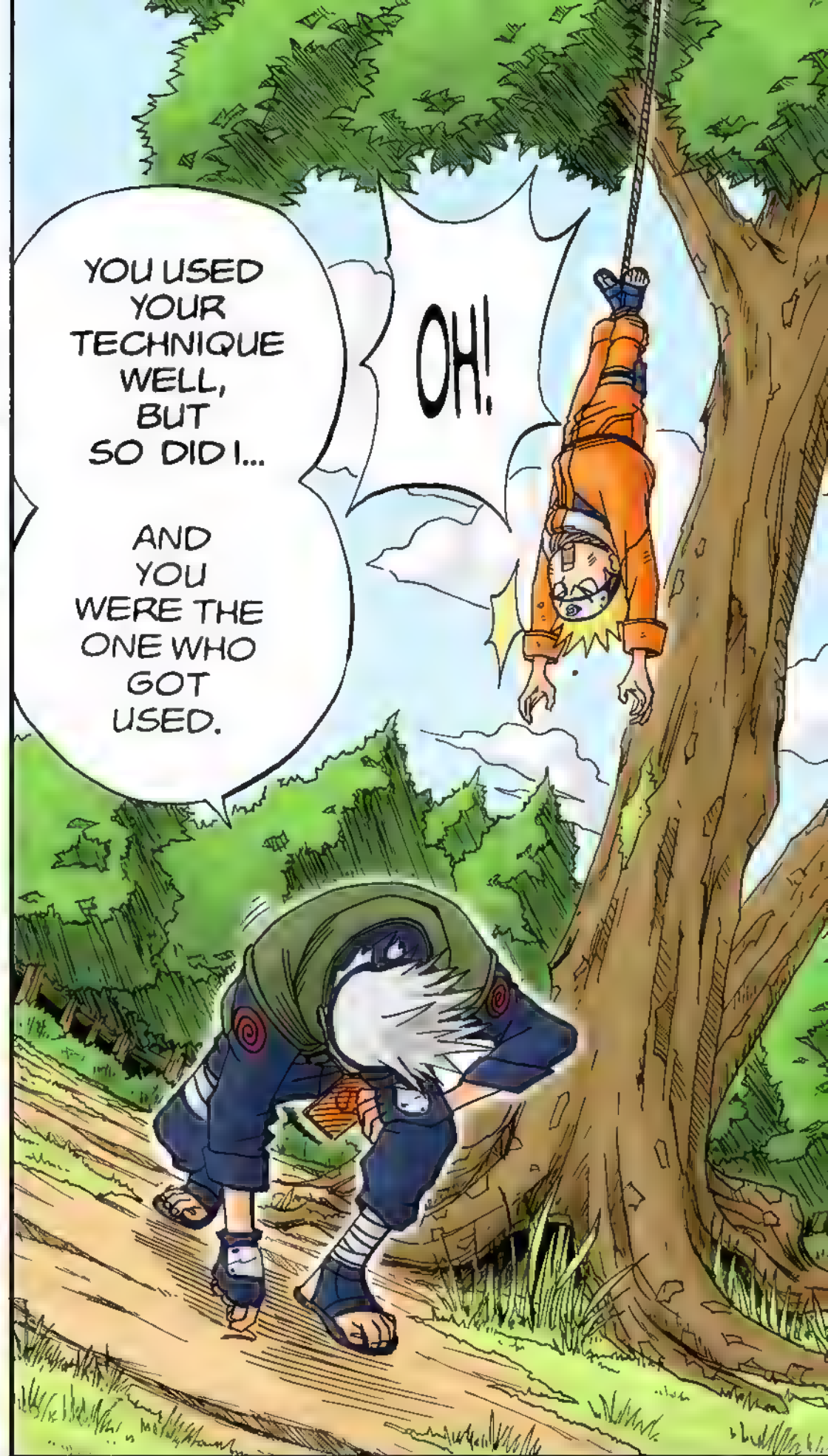
WHAT
THE
HECK--?!

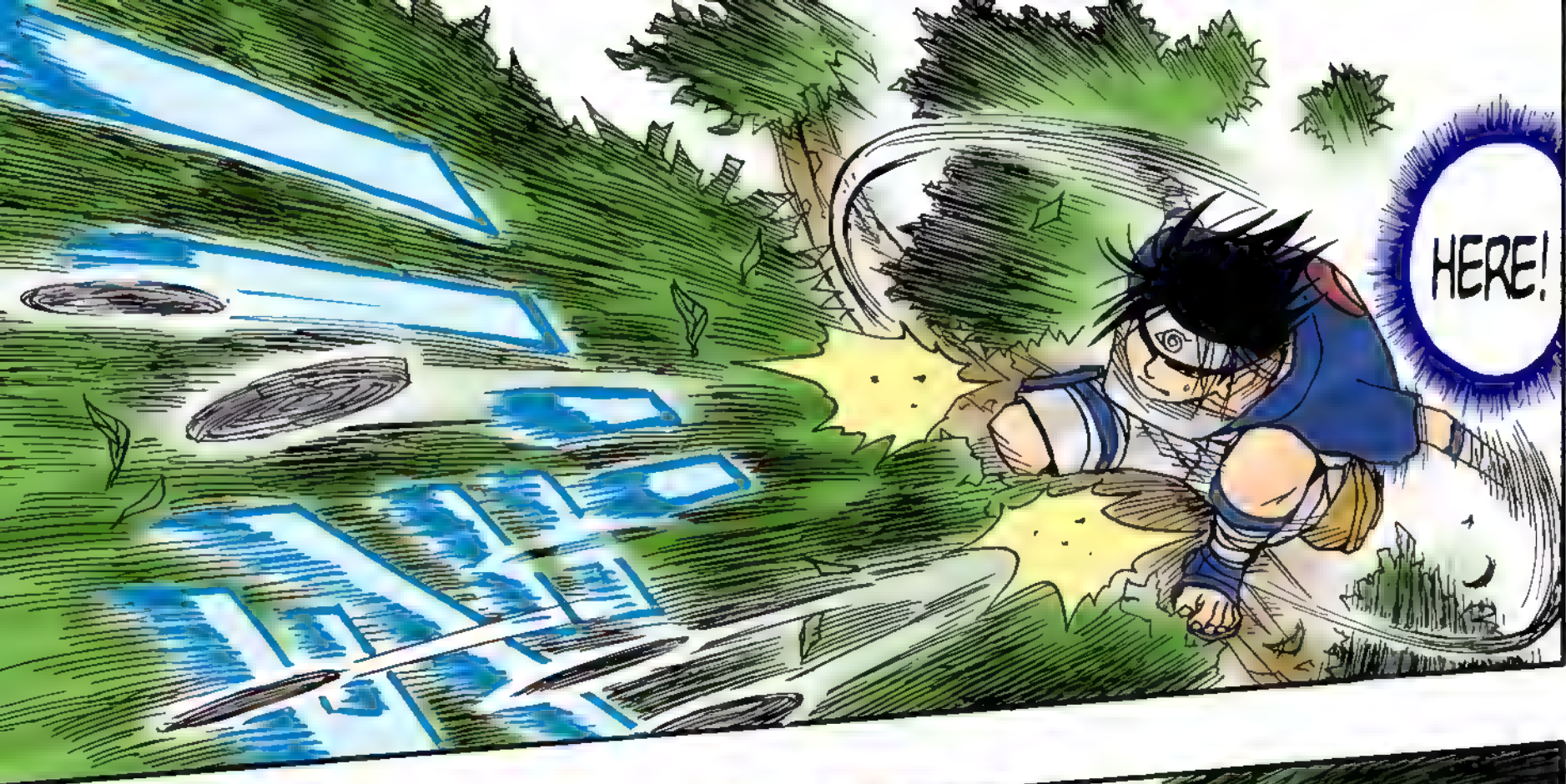


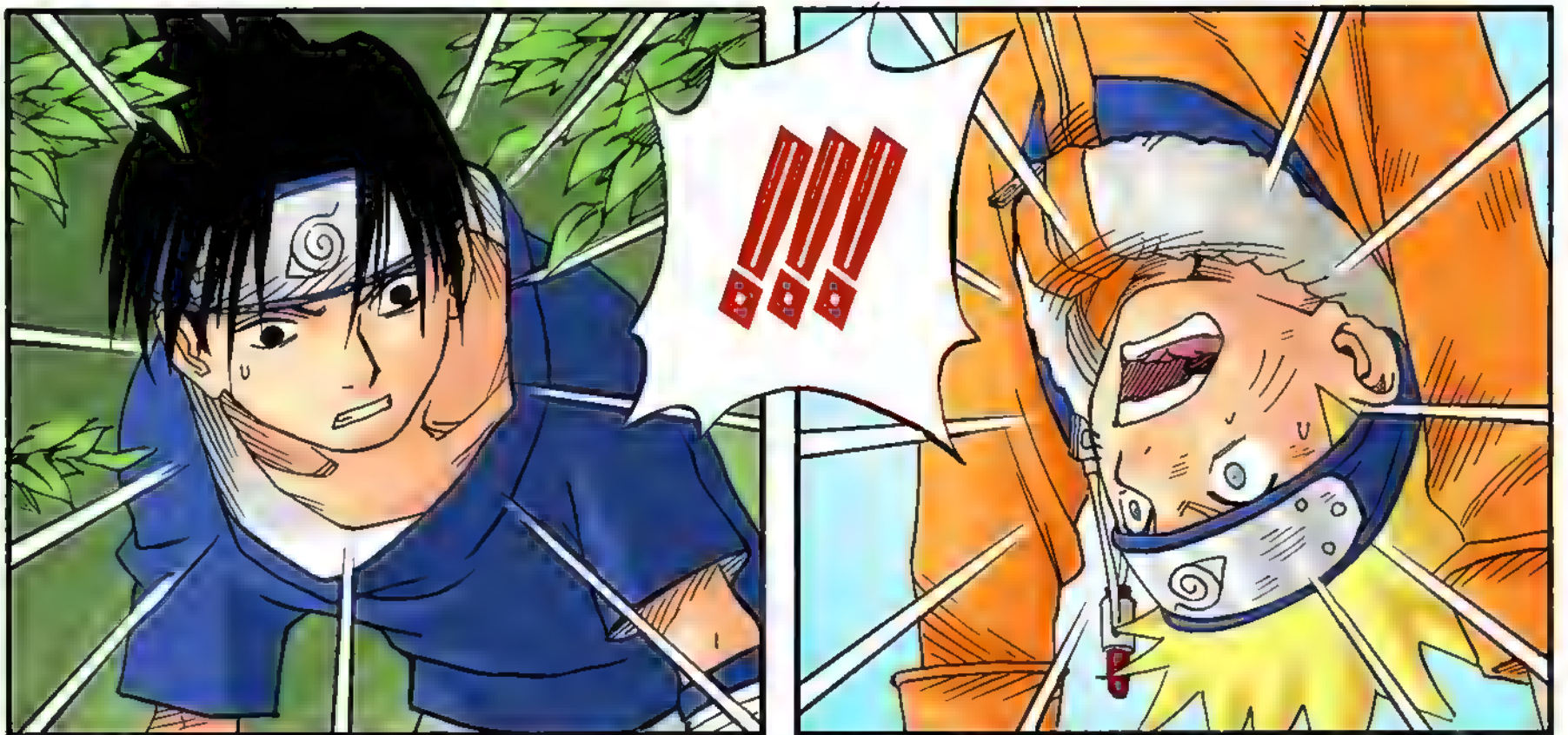
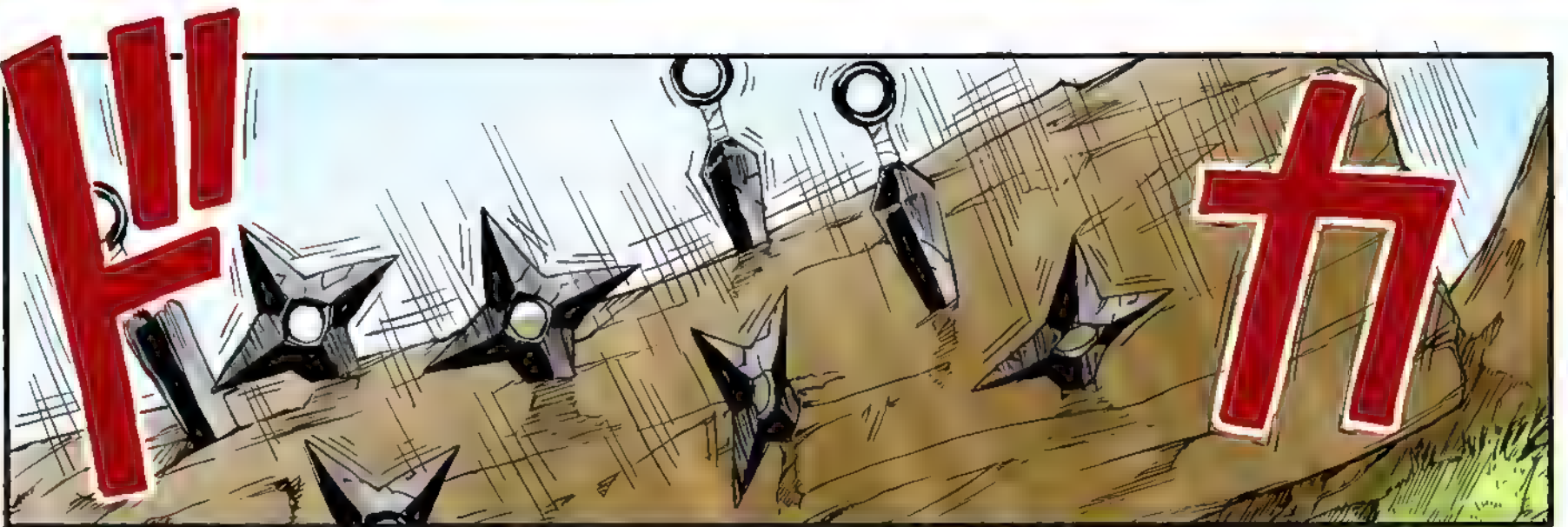
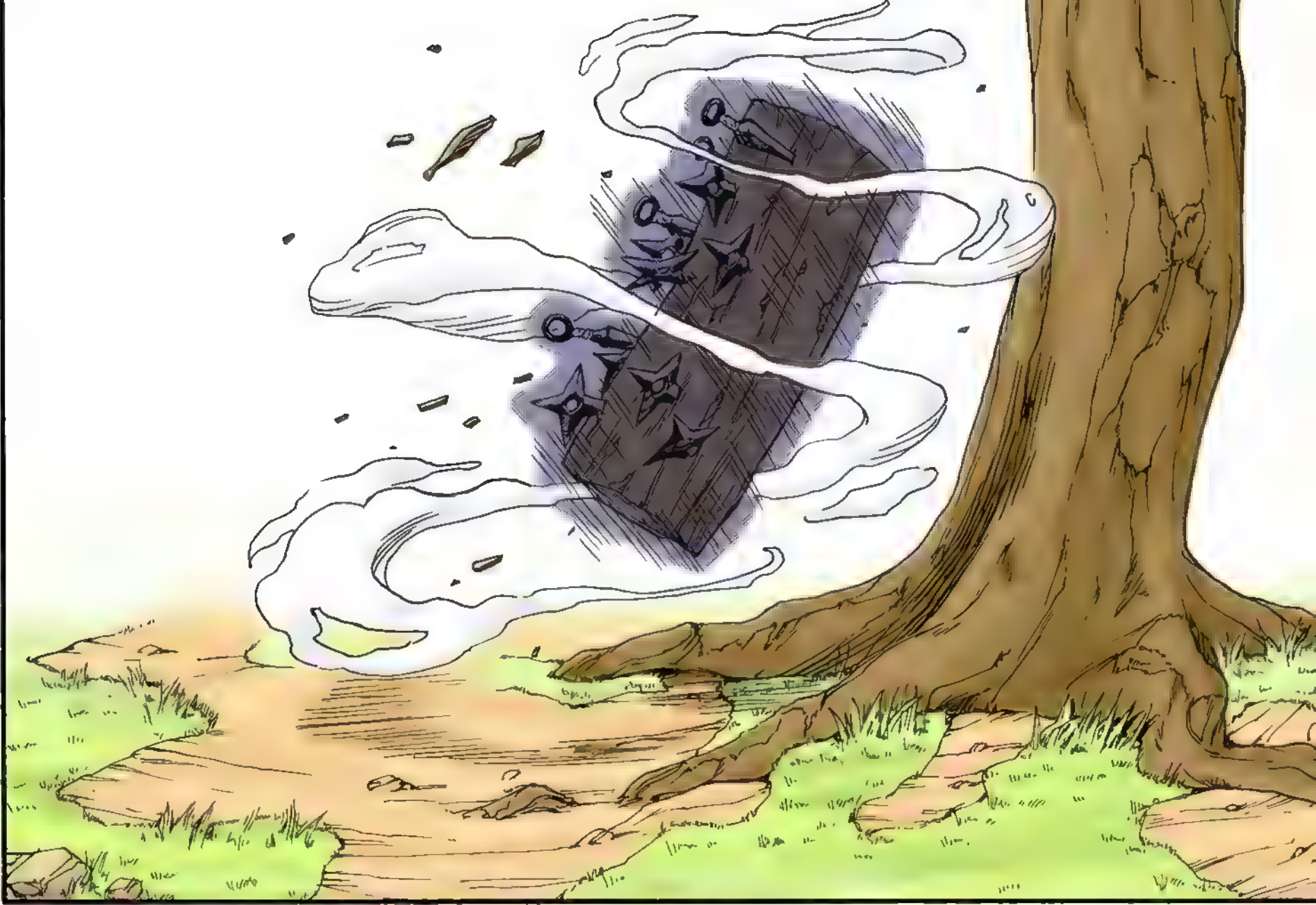
BUT EVEN MORE
TROUBLING,,,
MASTER
KAKASHI DIDN'T
DROP HIS GUARD
EVEN ONCE
DURING THE
FIGHT WITH
NARUTO...

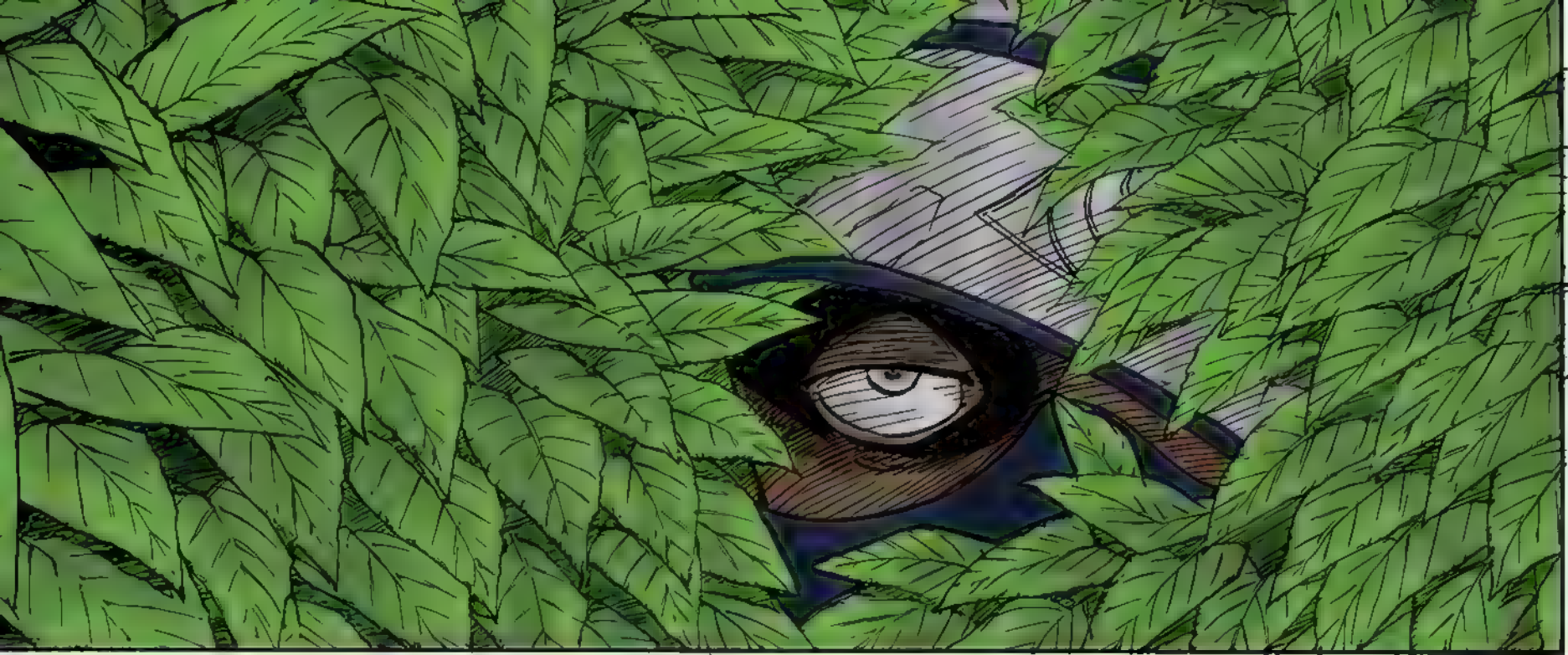
OF
COURSE
IT'S A
TRAP...

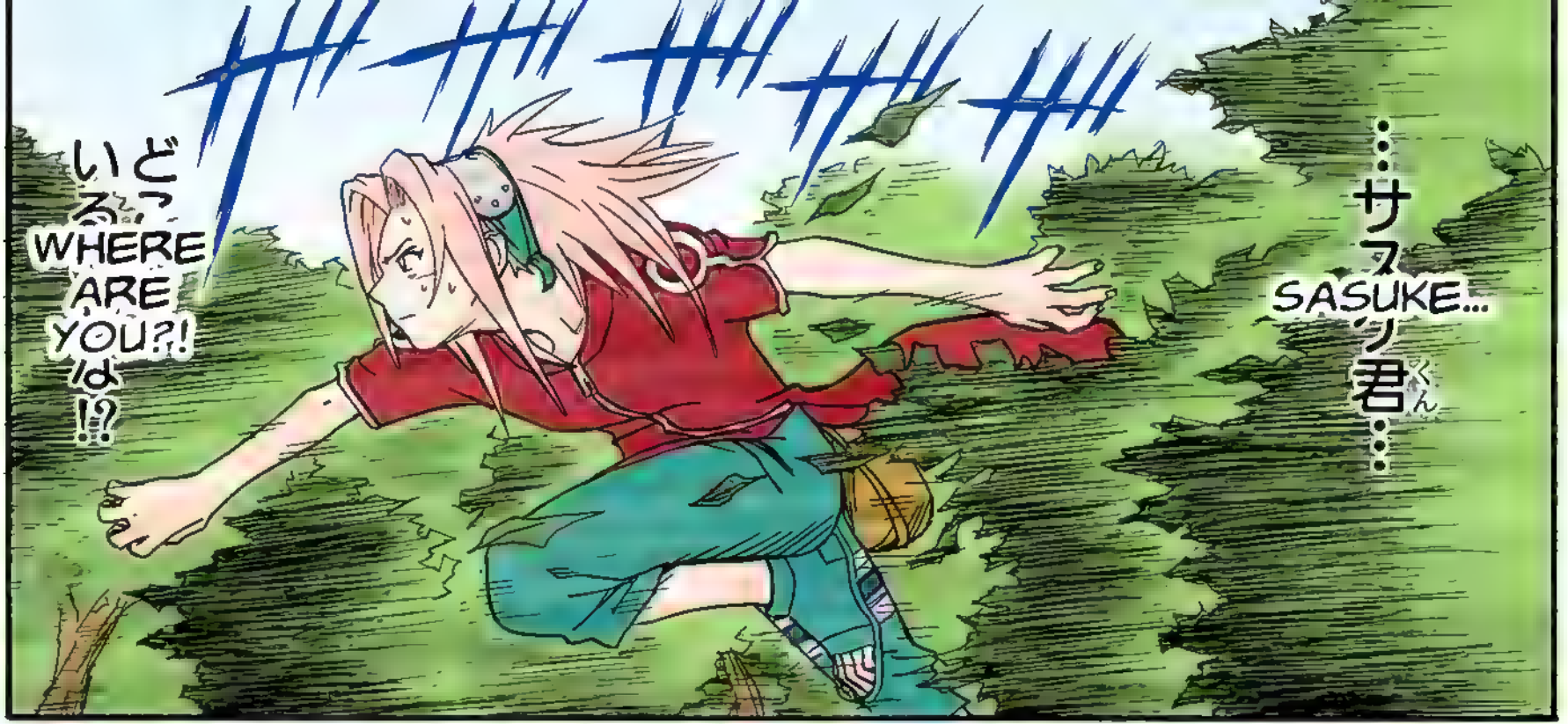






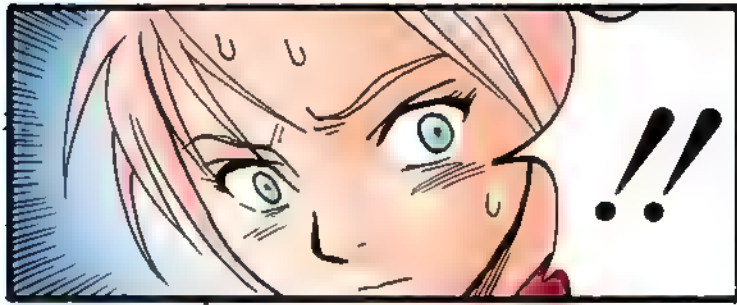






いど
WHERE
ARE
YOU?!
!!

…サ
SASUKE…
君くん



!!



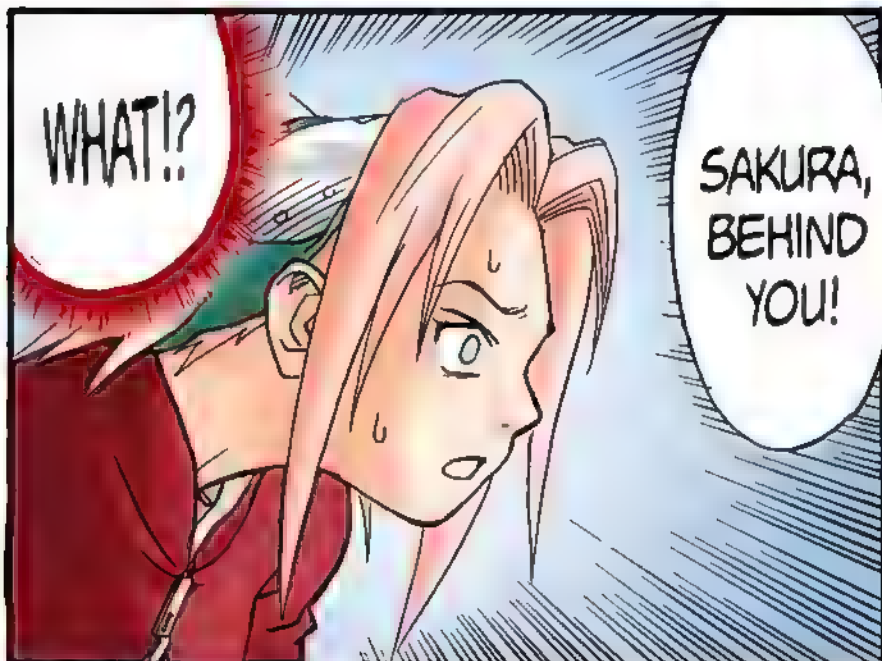
SHF!!



NO,
I WON'T
BELIEVE
THAT!
NOT
SASUKE!

MASTER
KAKASHI
MUST
HAVE
GOTTEN
HIM.

RUSTLE



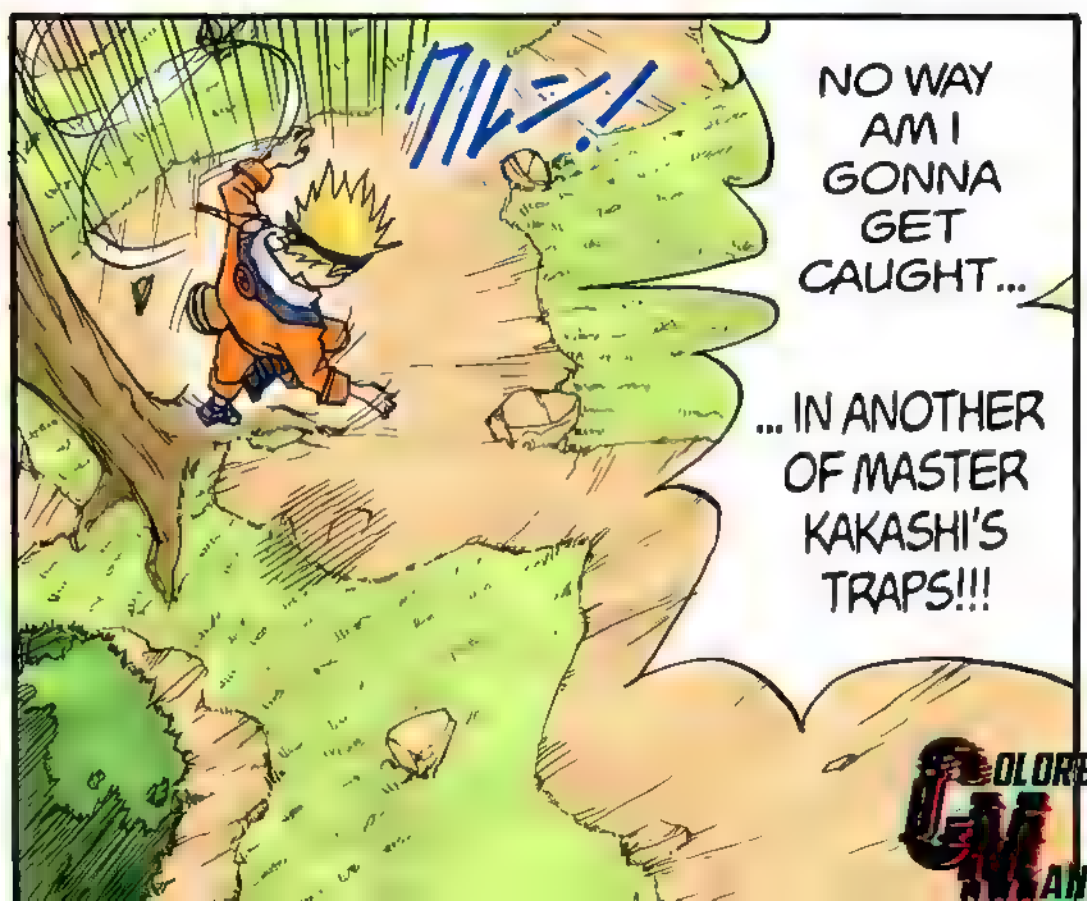
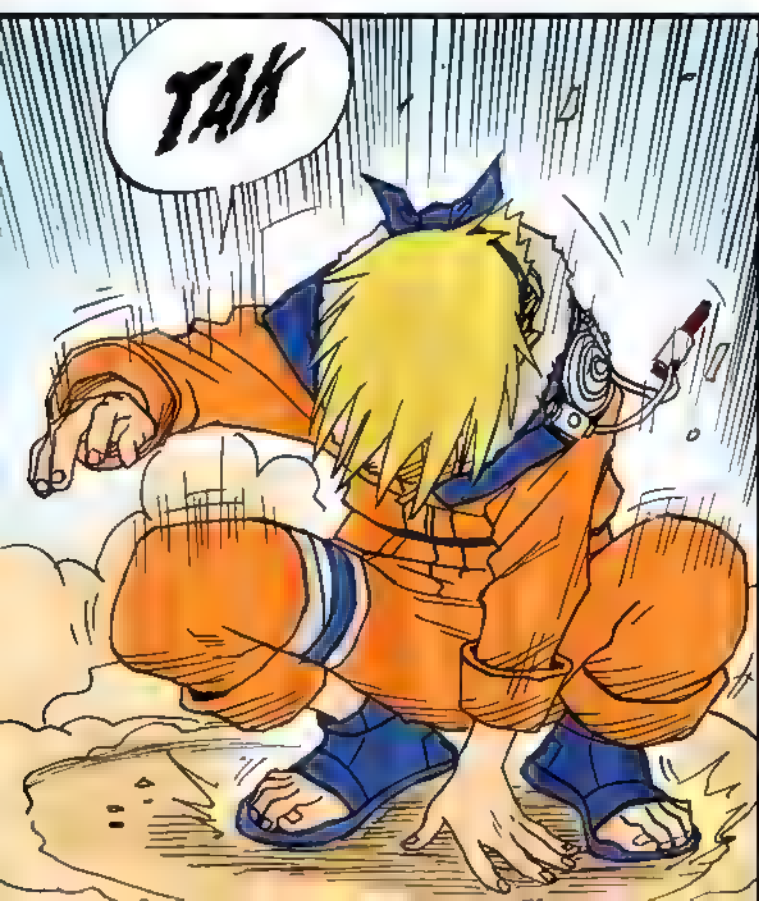
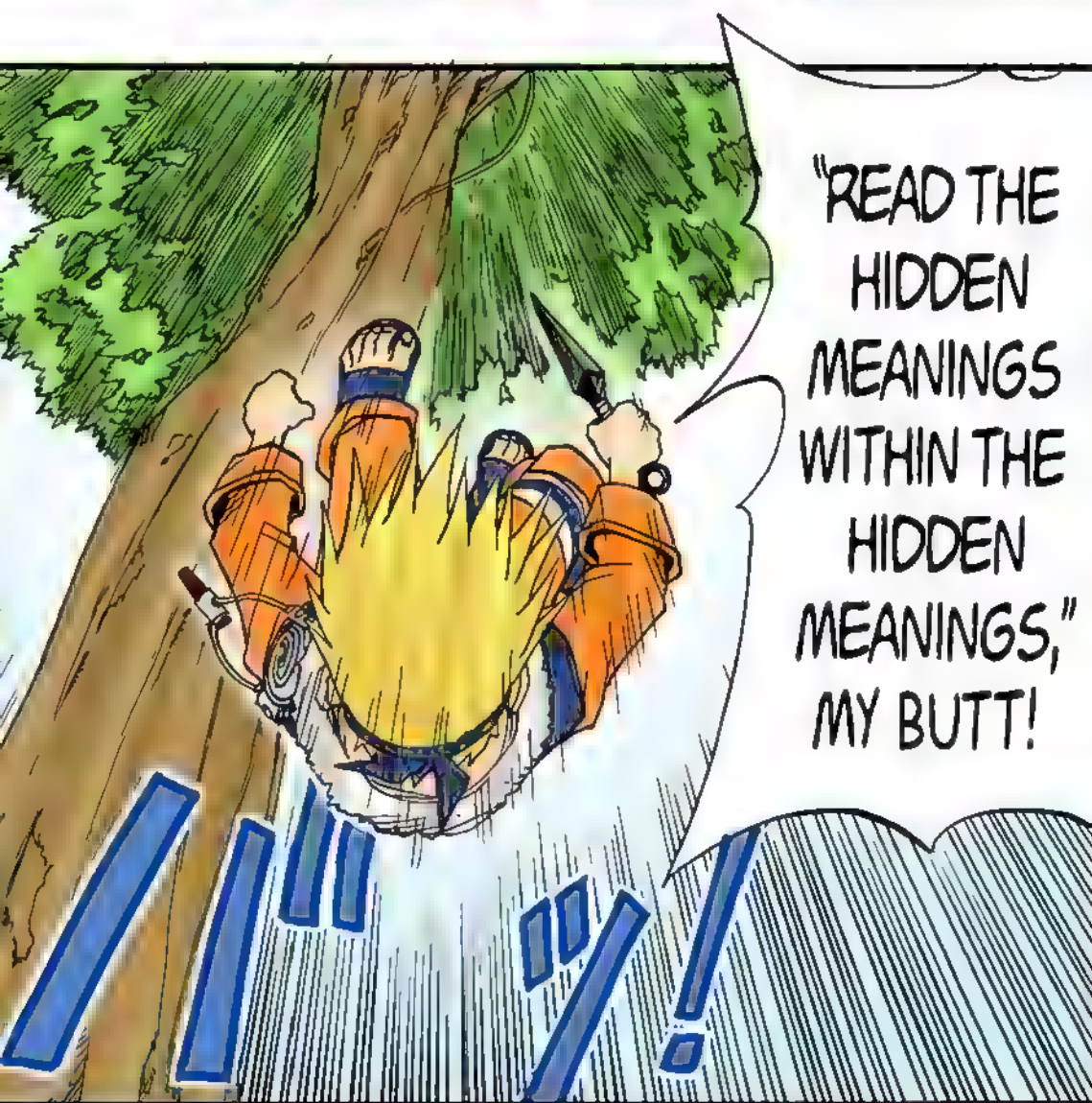
WHAT!?

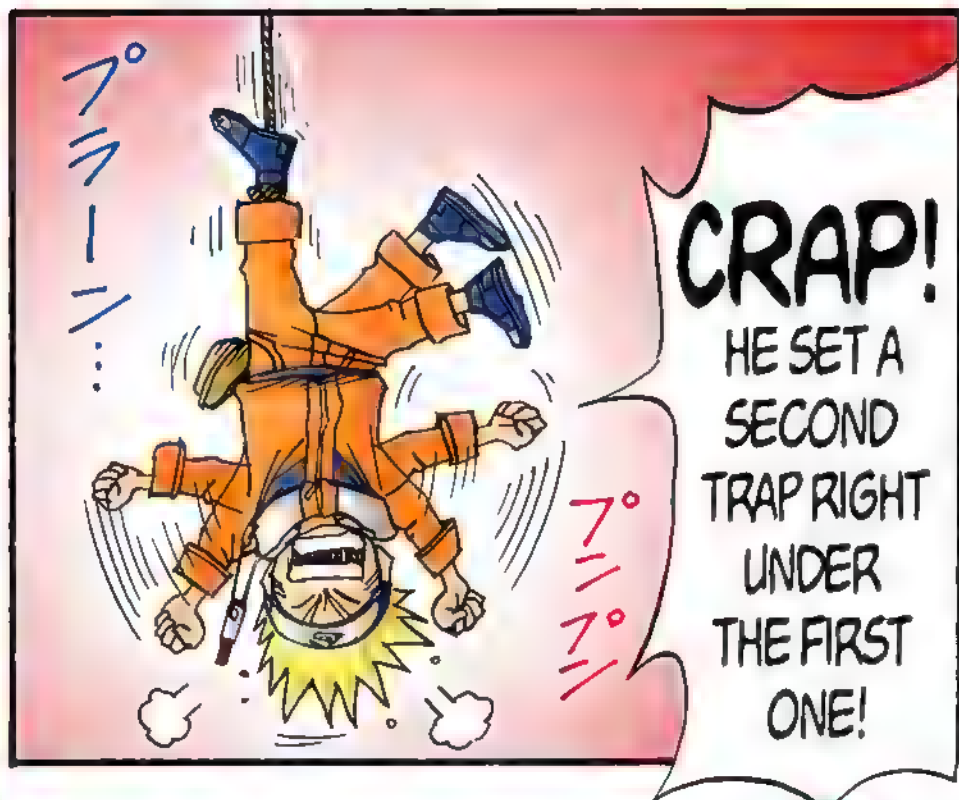
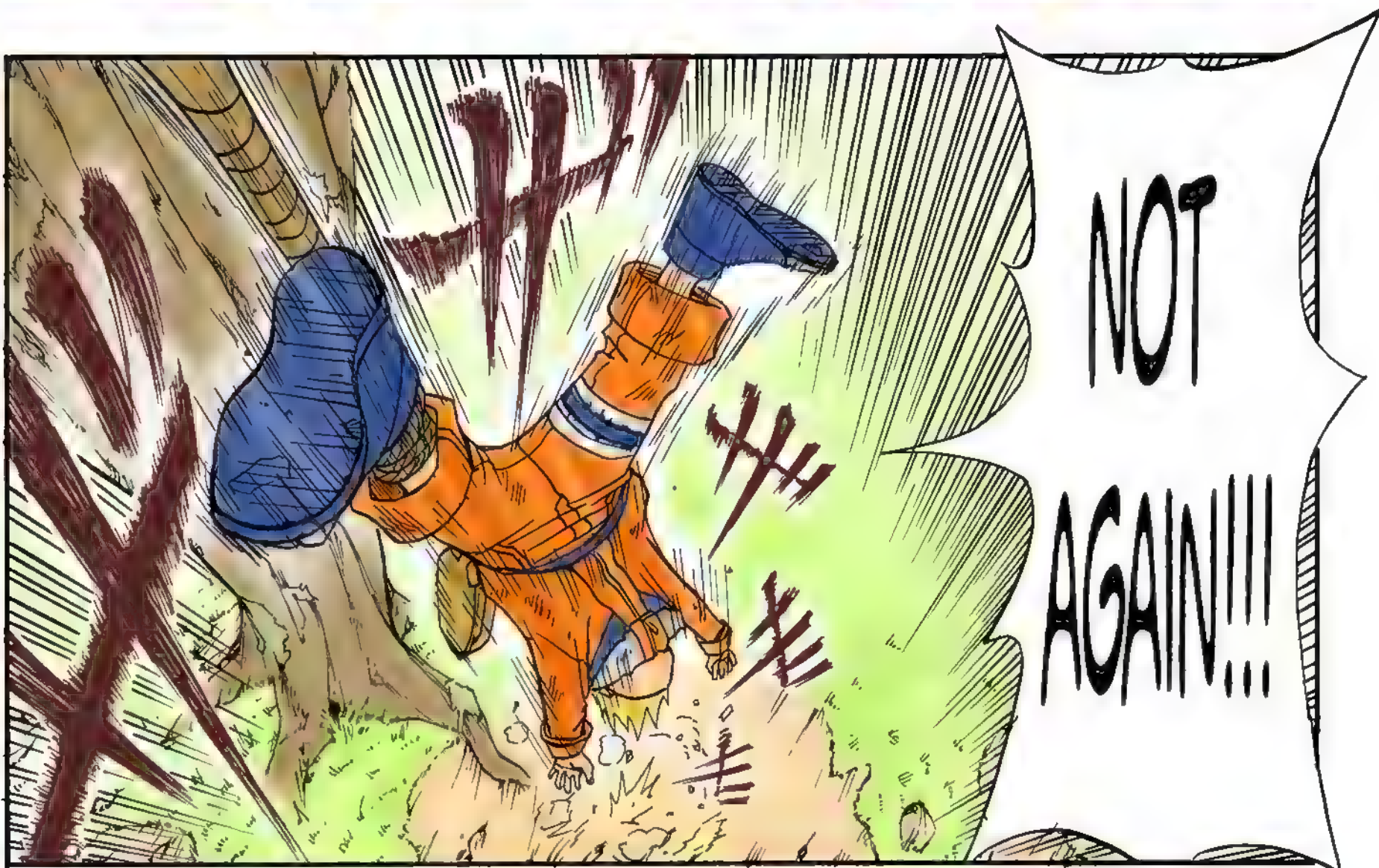
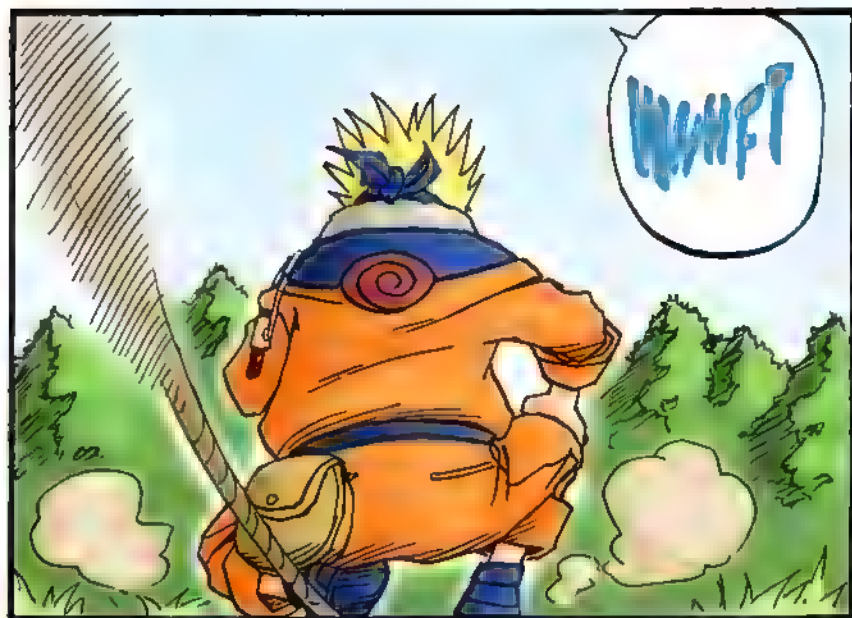
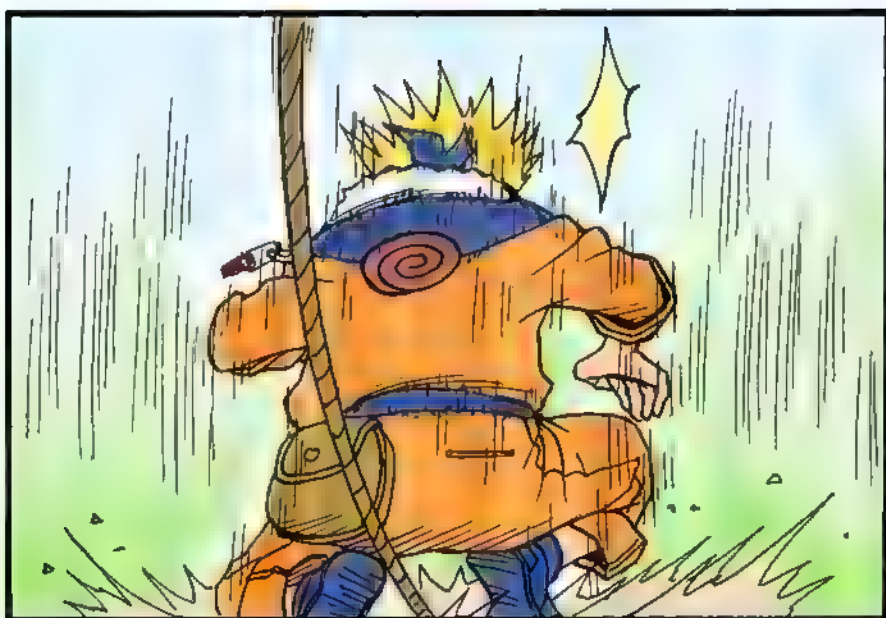
SAKURA,
BEHIND
YOU!

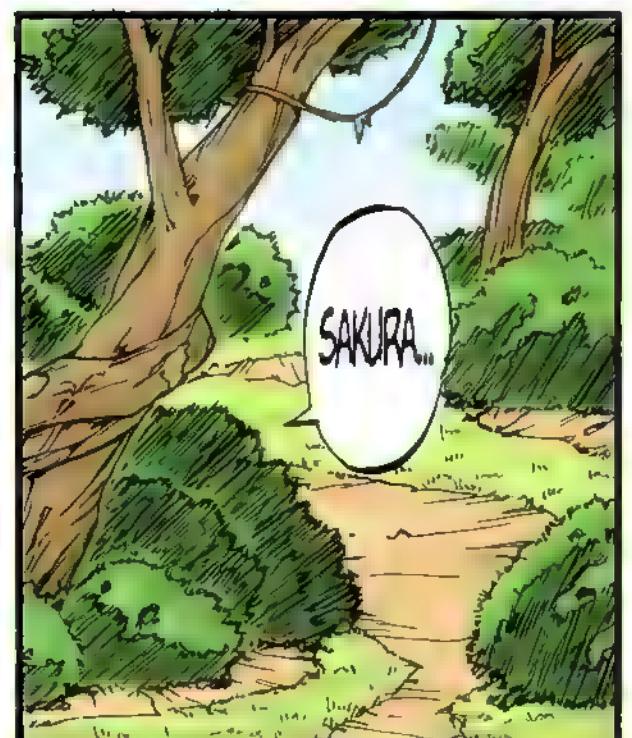
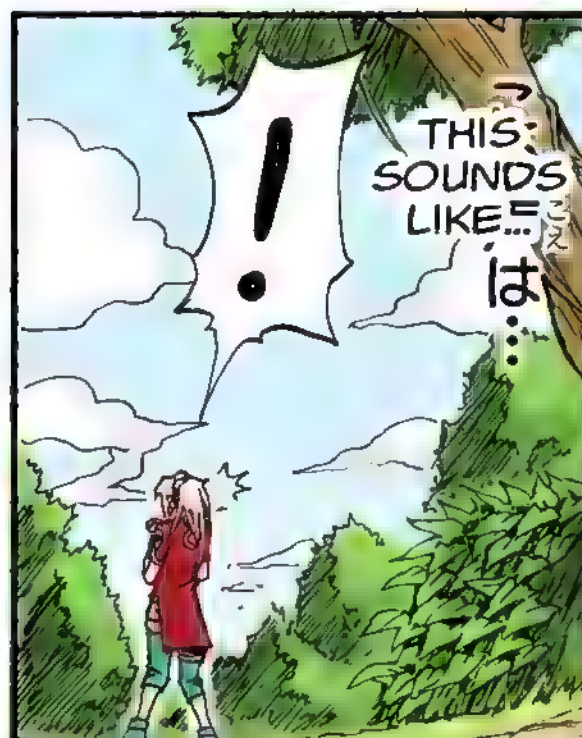
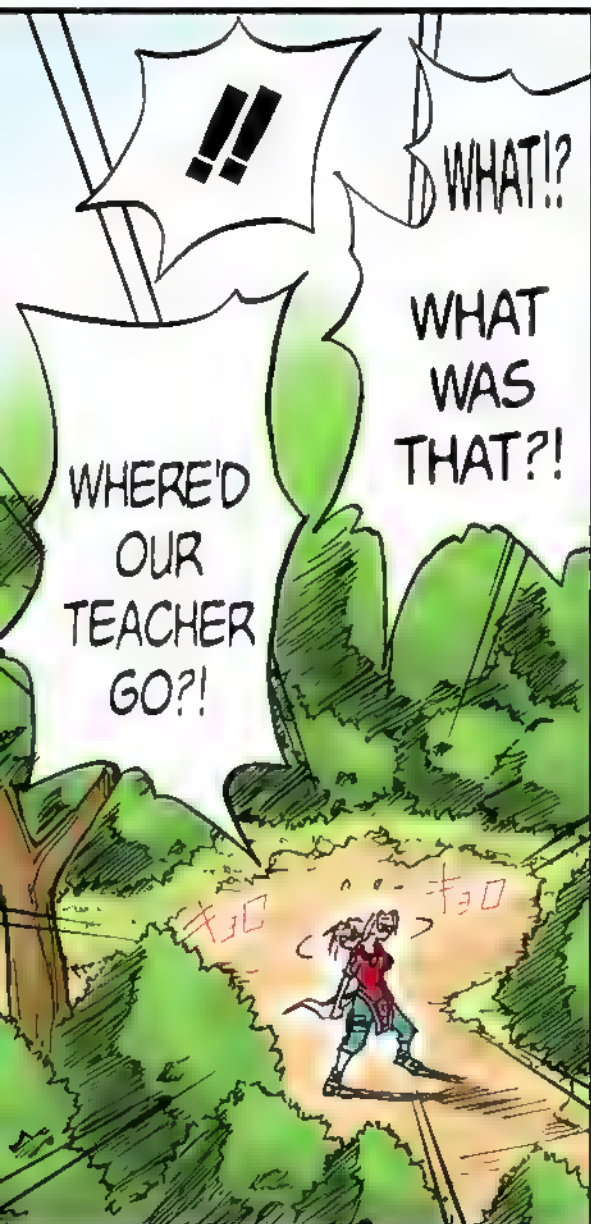
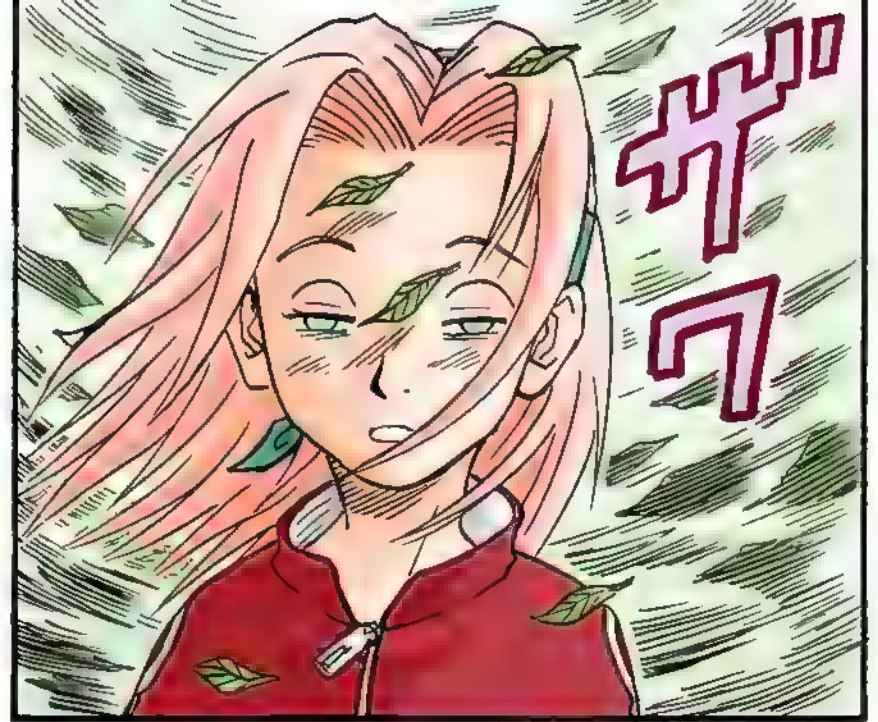
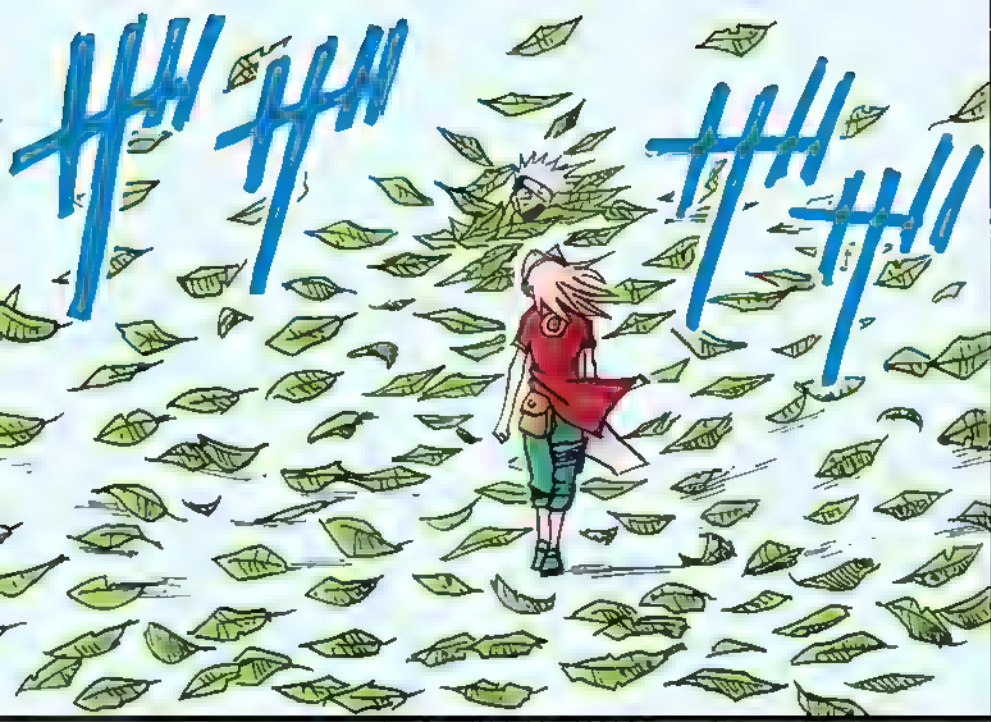


…SAFE!
HE
HASN'T
SEEN
ME…

CHING







H-HELP...
ME...

HUFF

...SA.....
SAKU...
RA...

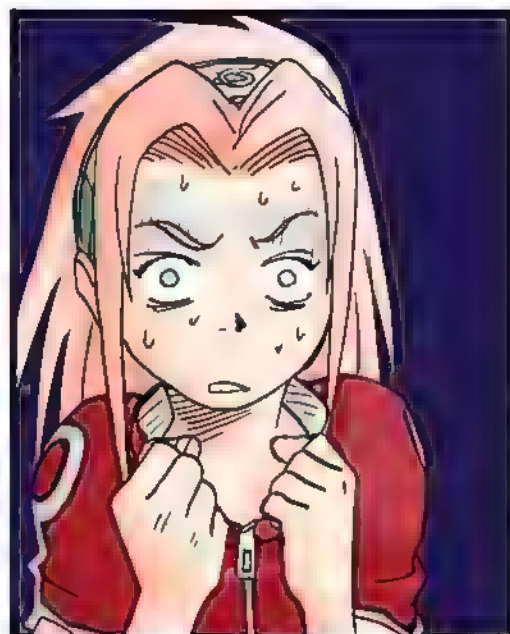
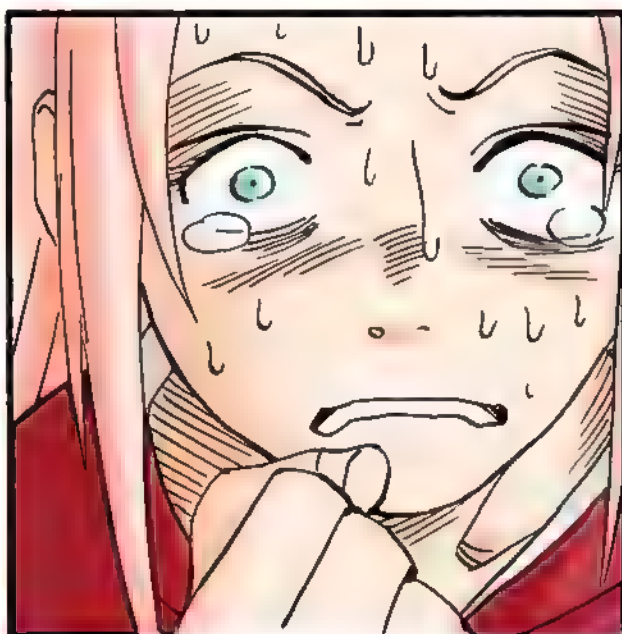
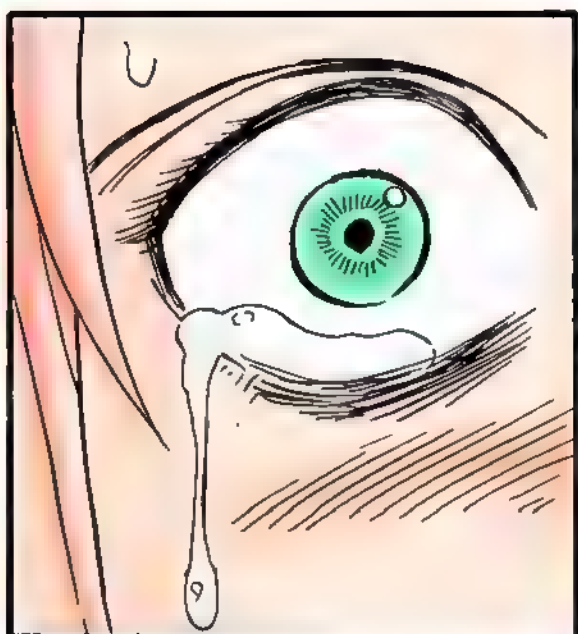
HUFF

HUFF

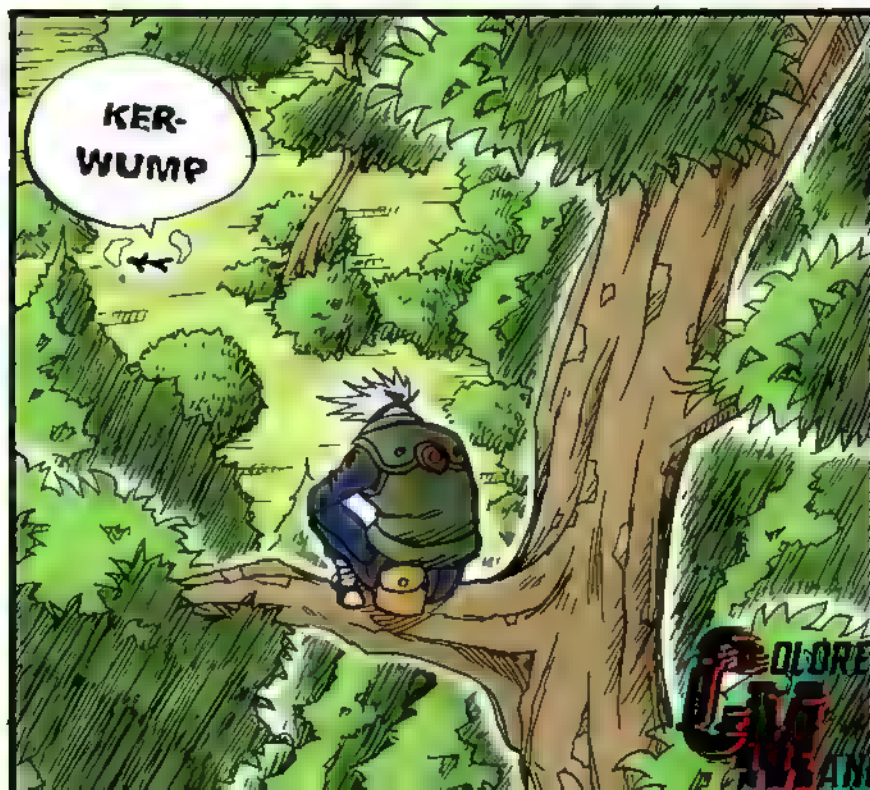
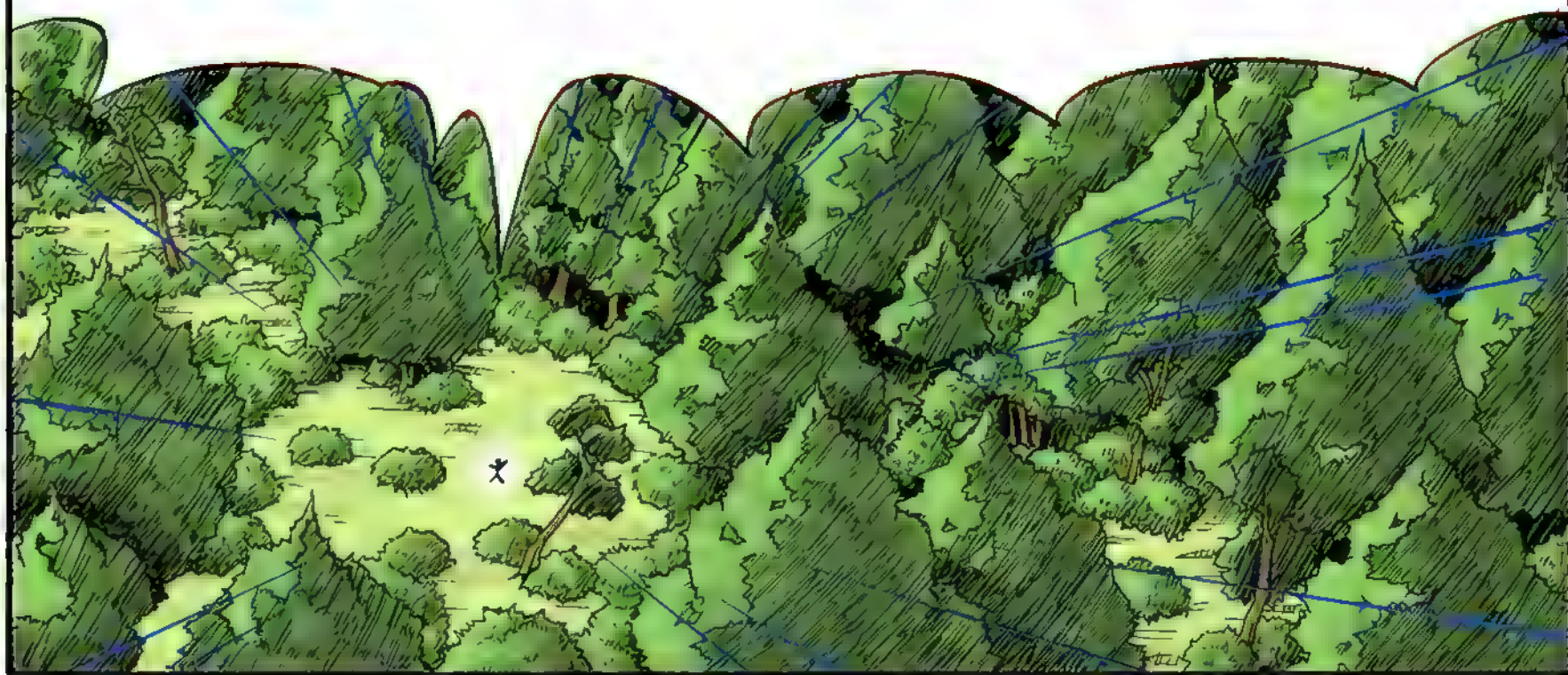
HUFF

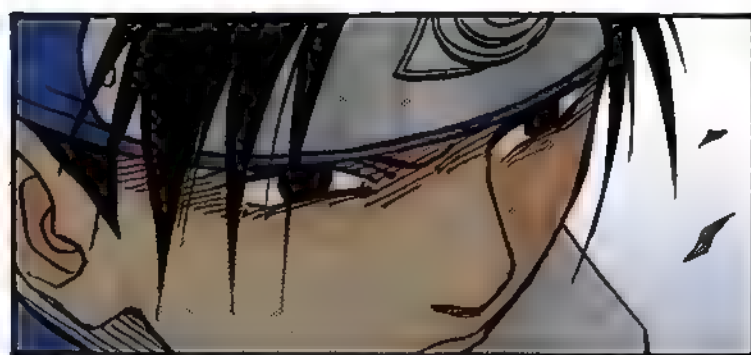
HUFF

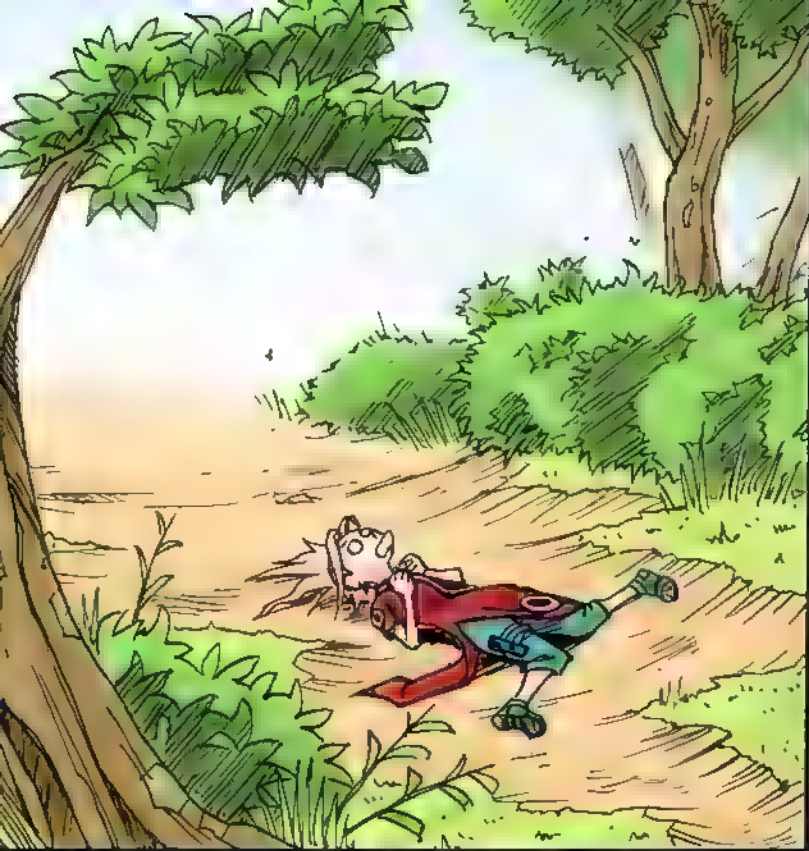
HUFF



YEEAAAAAAAH!!!!



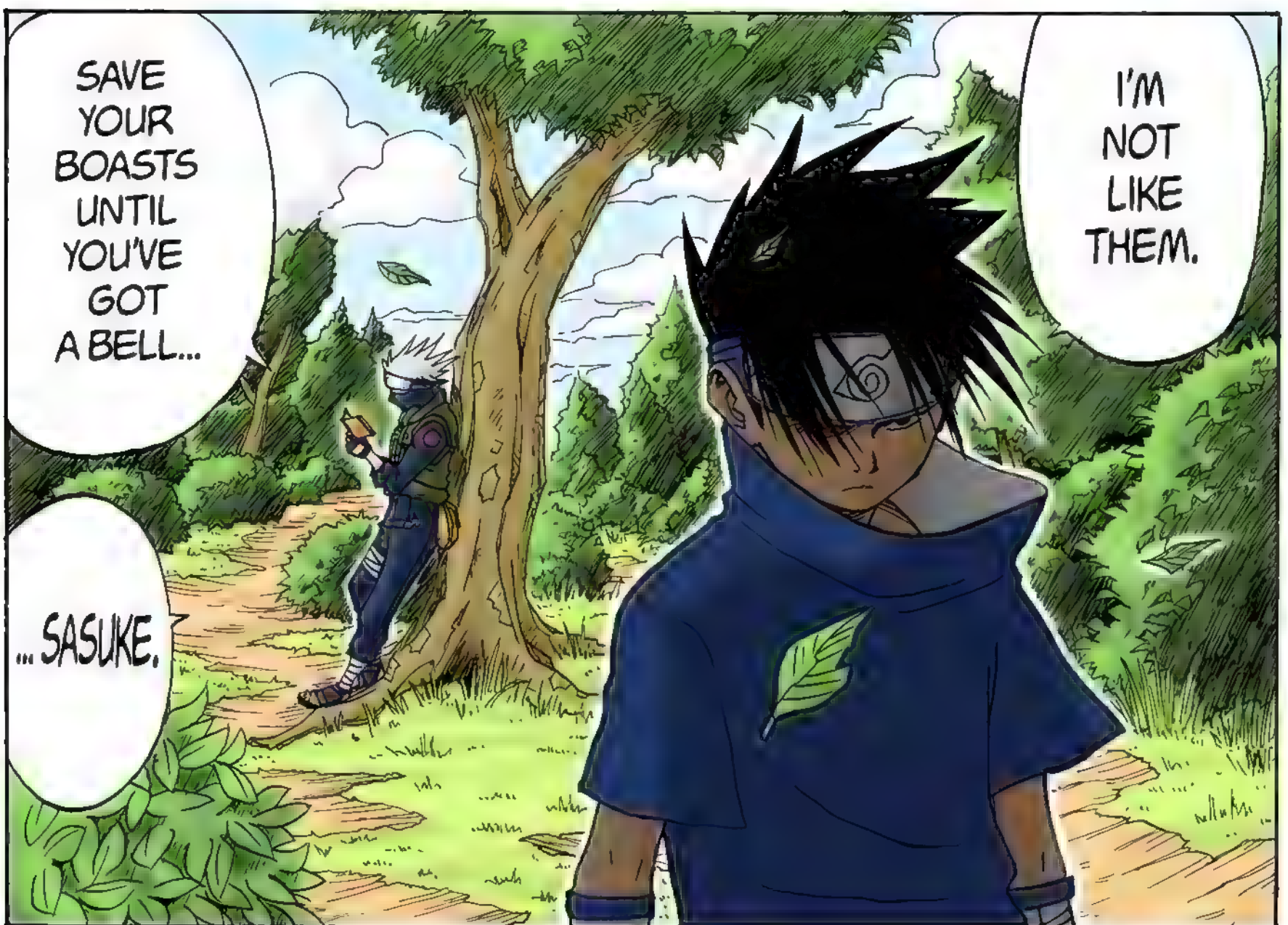
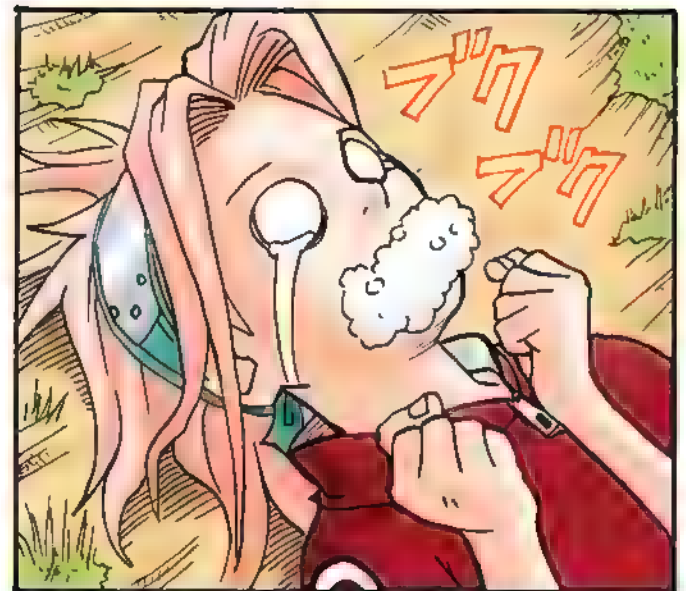




HE'S BEEN
USING THE ART
OF ILLUSION...
EMPLOYING
HYPNOTISM TO
CREATE
HALLUCINATIONS
IN OTHERS.

見催眠法
ミカイミンポウ

IF THAT WAS
SAKURA, IT'S
POSSIBLE HE
MAY HAVE
BEATEN HER...
BUT...

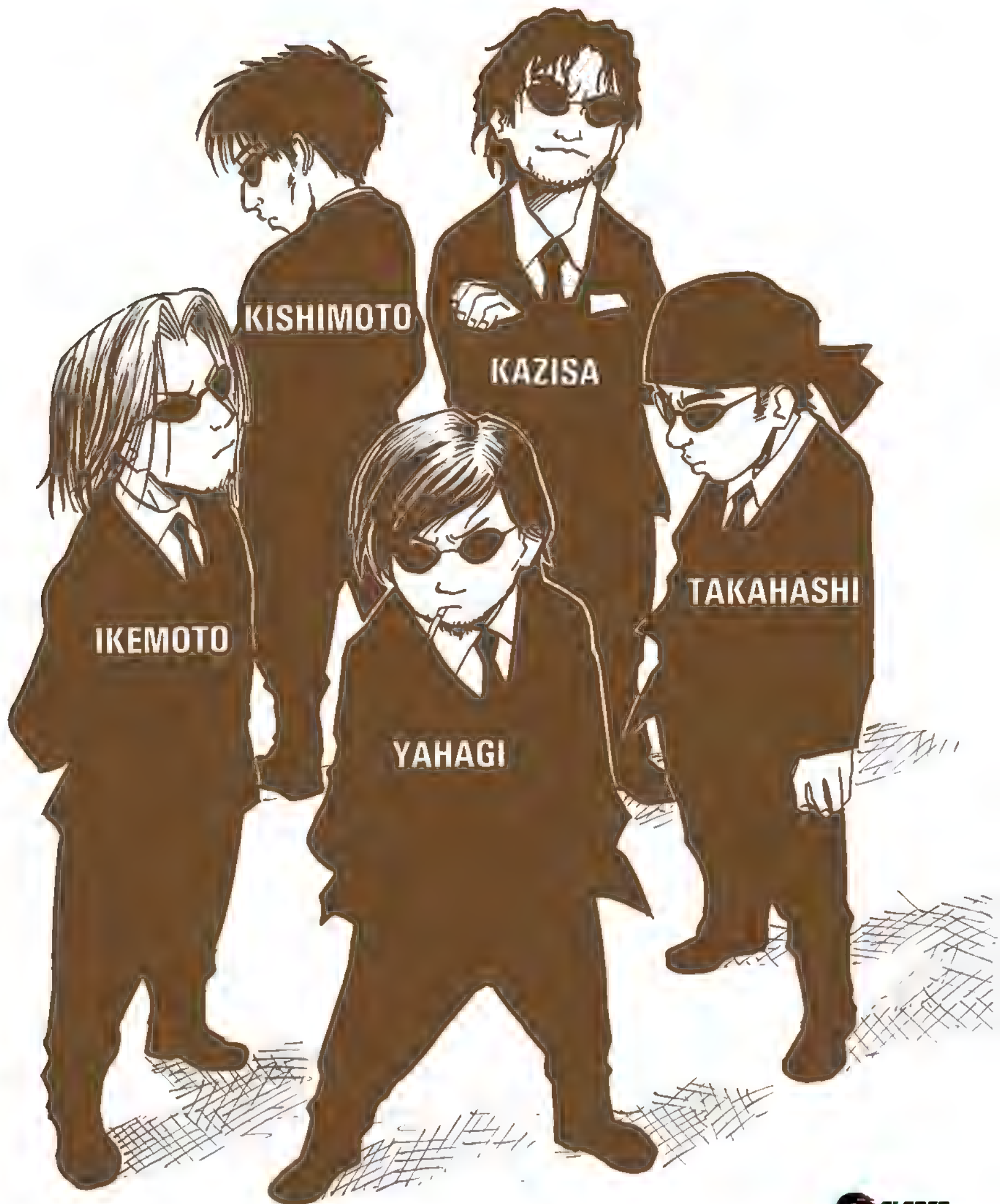


SAVE
YOUR
BOASTS
UNTIL
YOU'VE
GOT
A BELL...

I'M
NOT
LIKE
THEM.

... SASUKE.

NARUTO STAFF



ナンバー

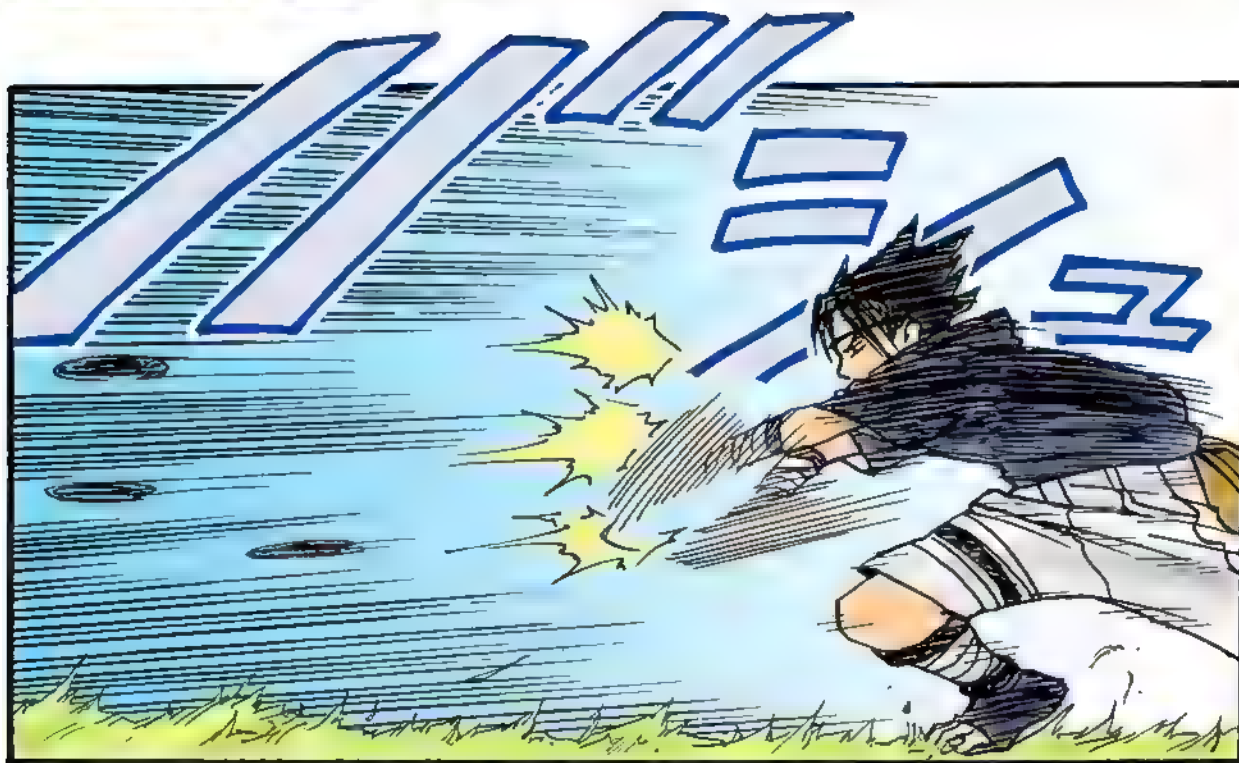
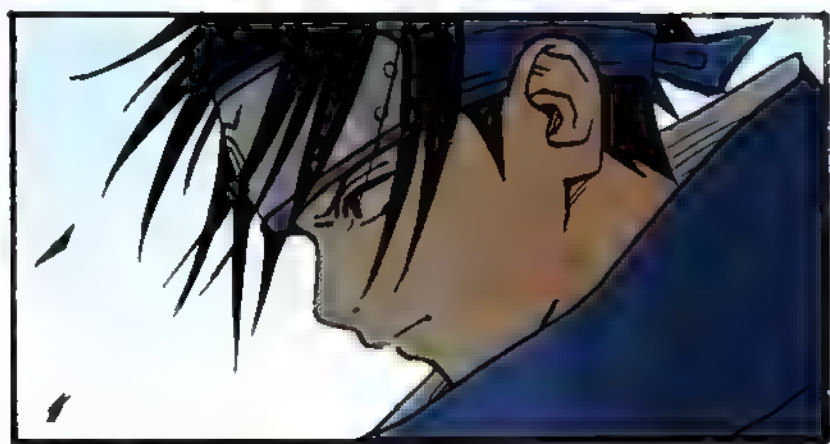
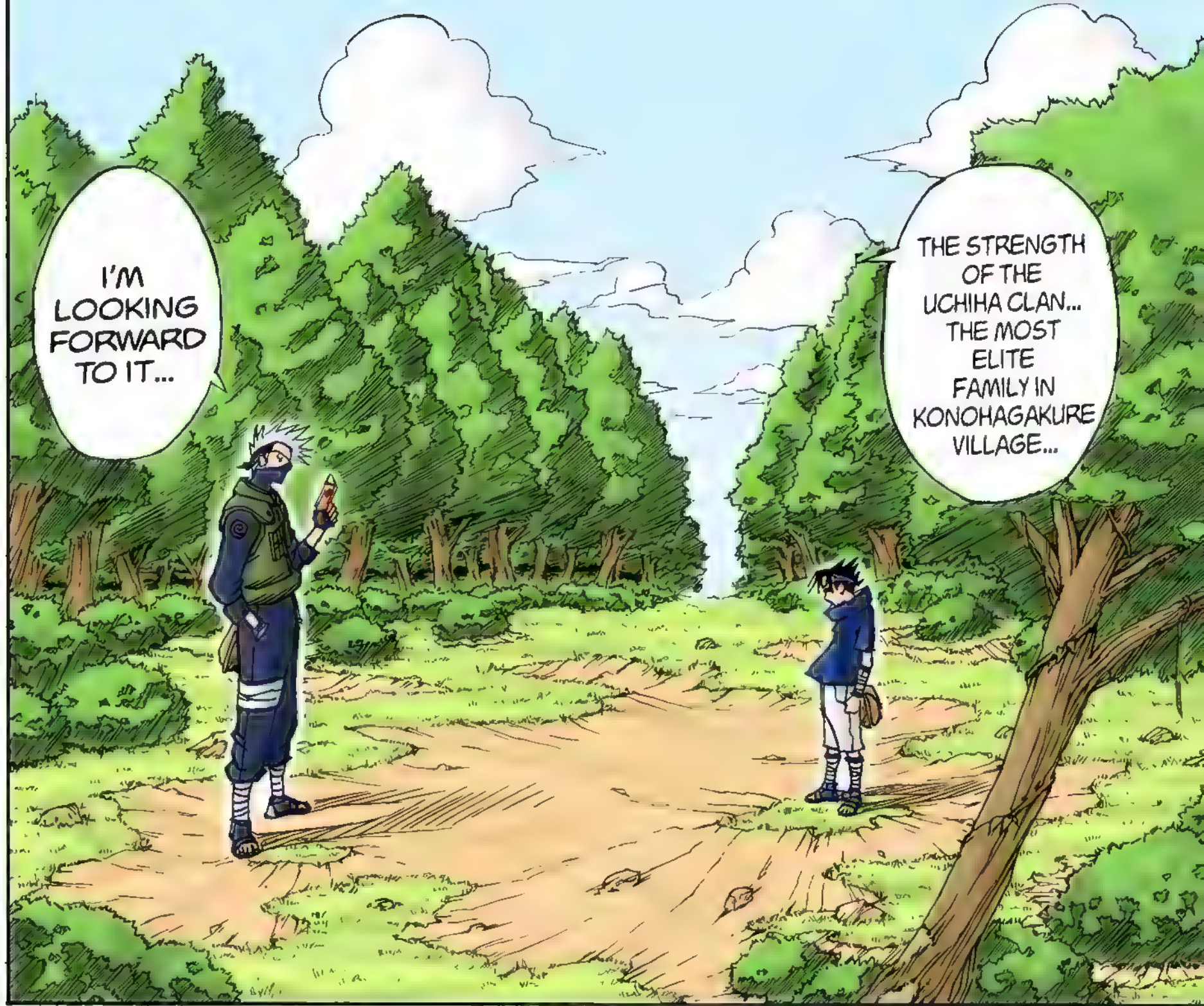


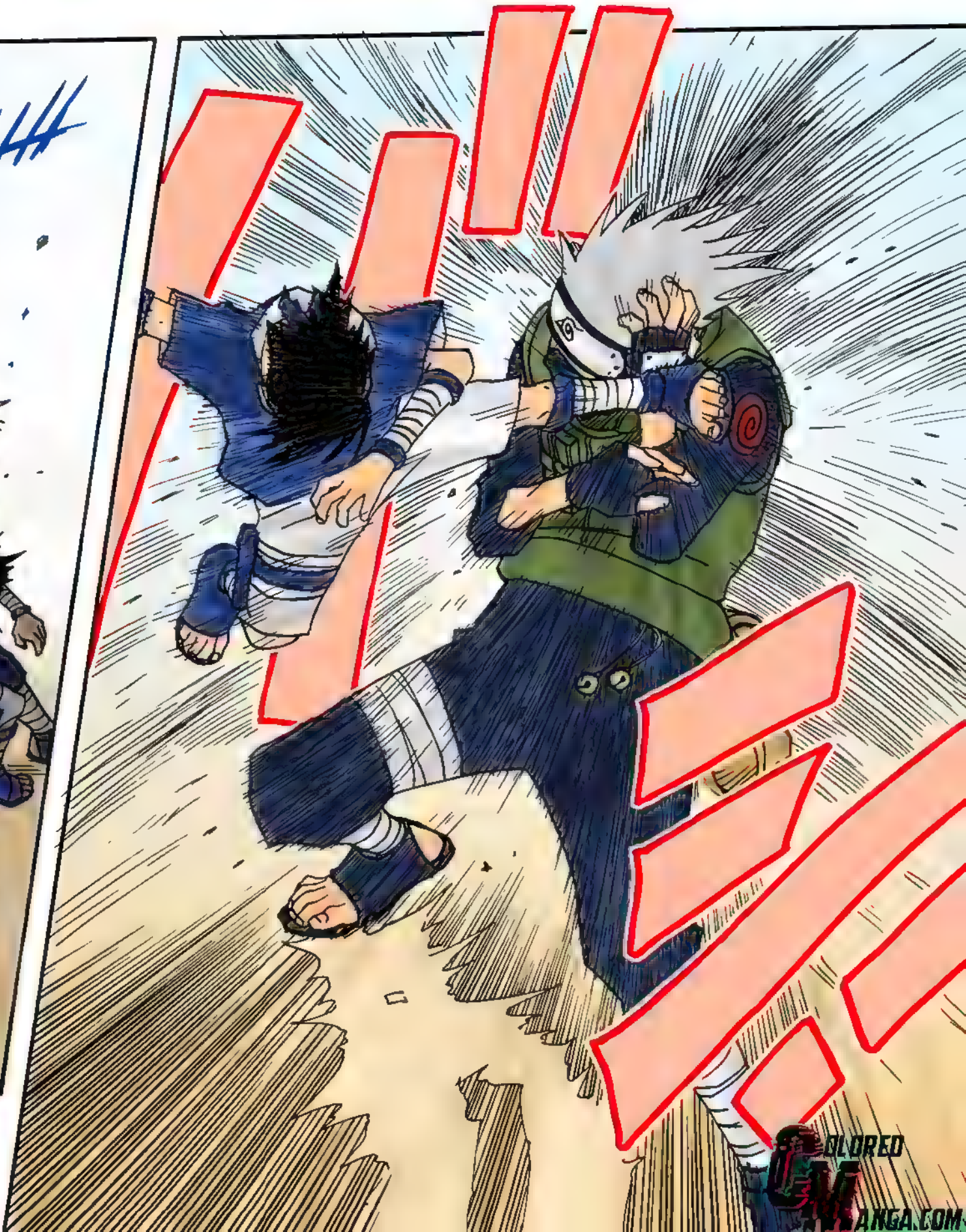
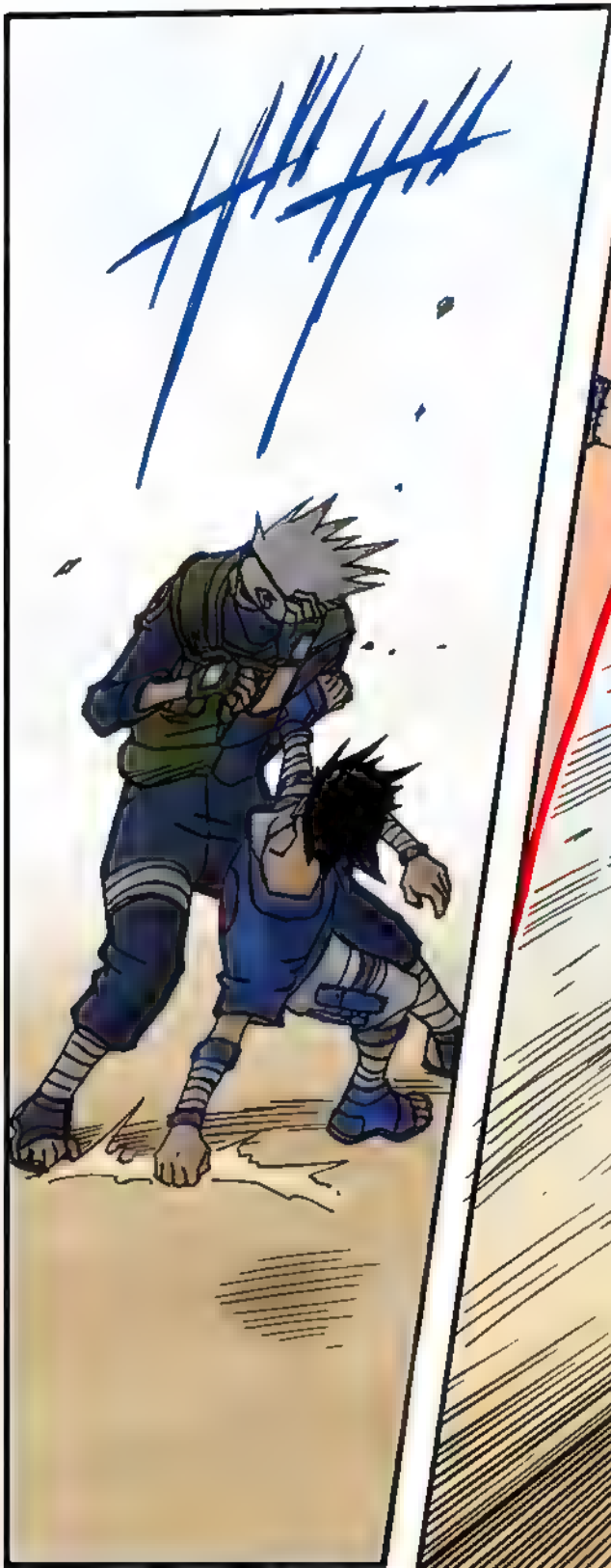
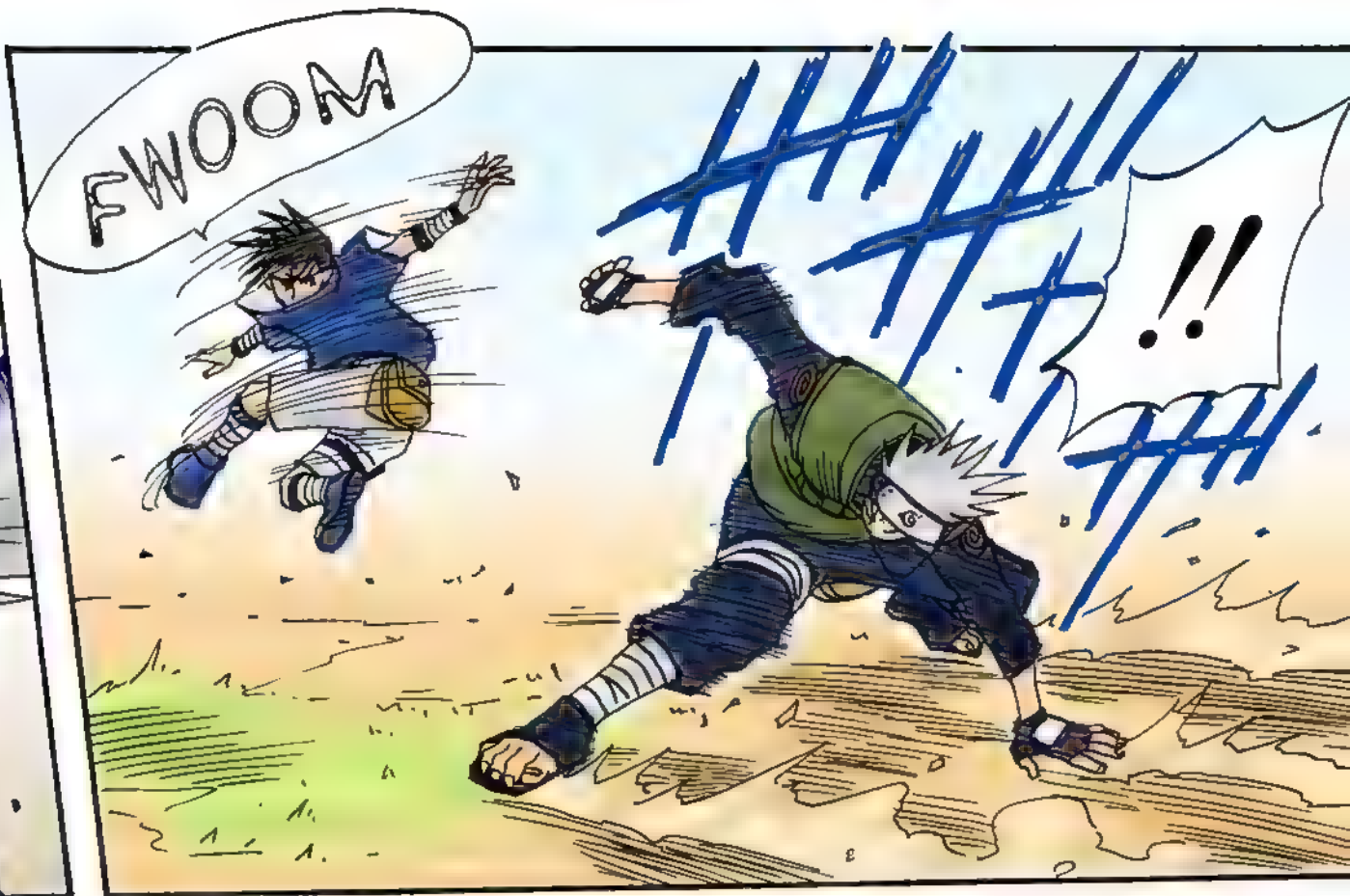
7

KAKASHI'S DECISION

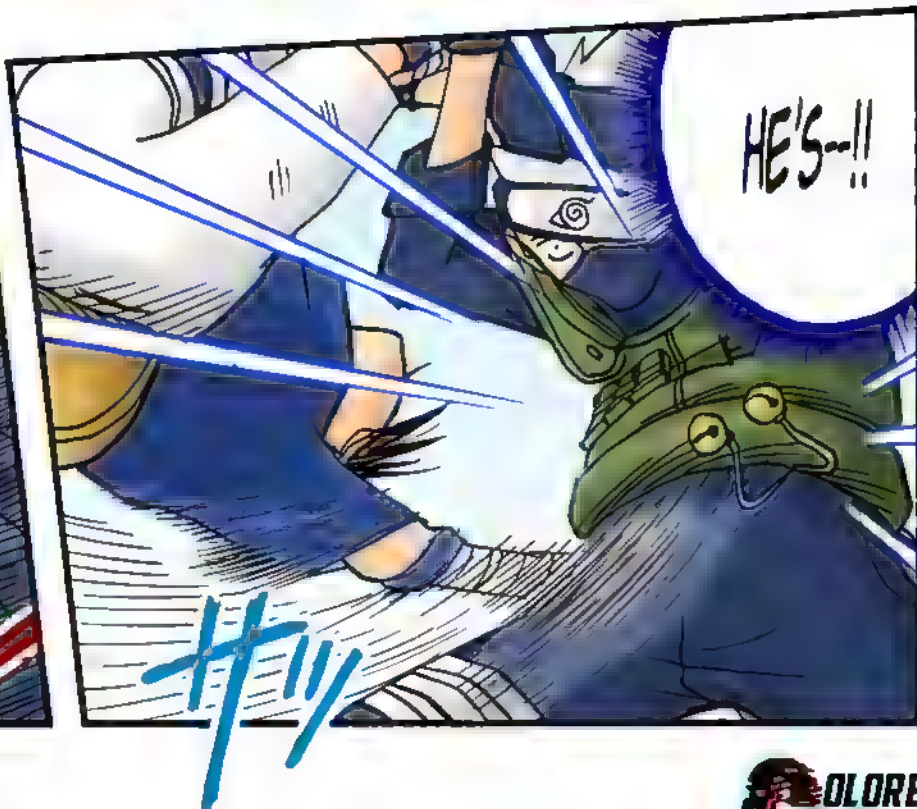
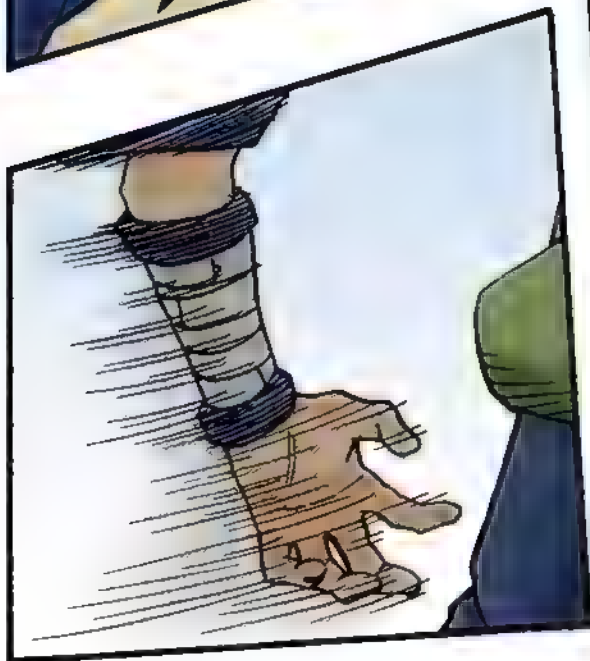
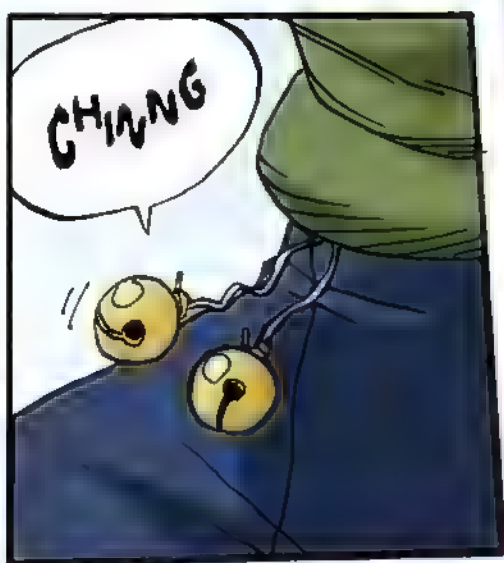
カカシの結論

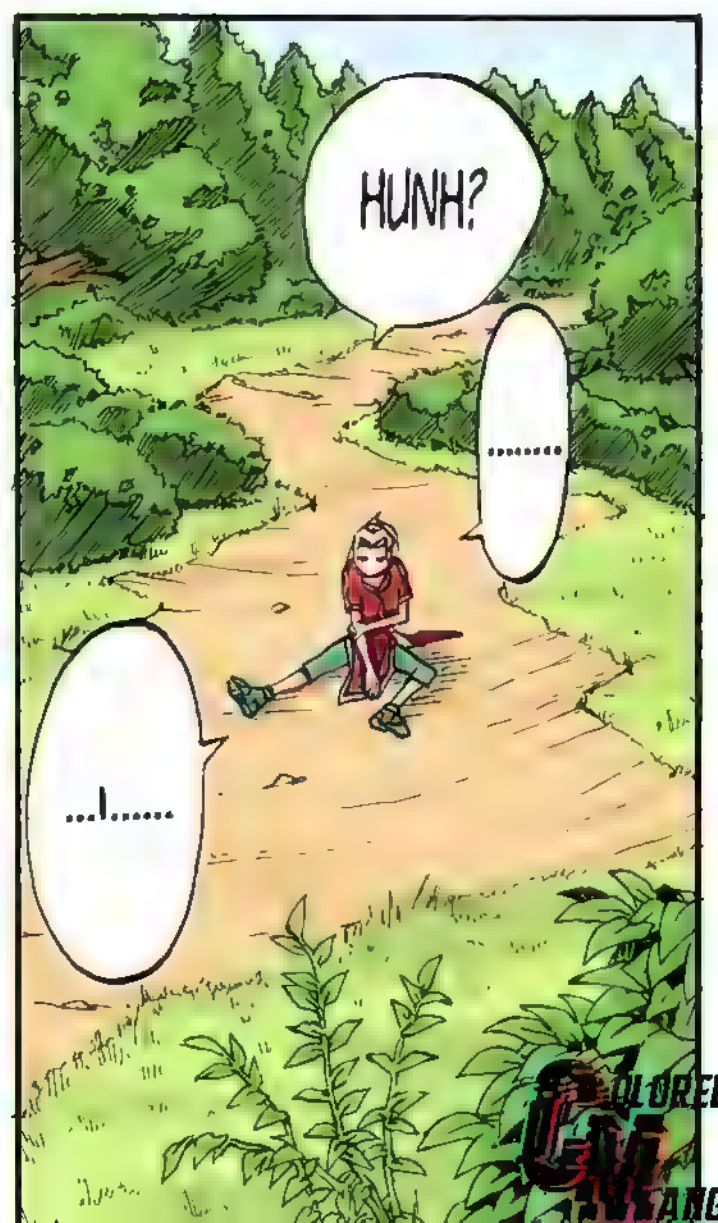
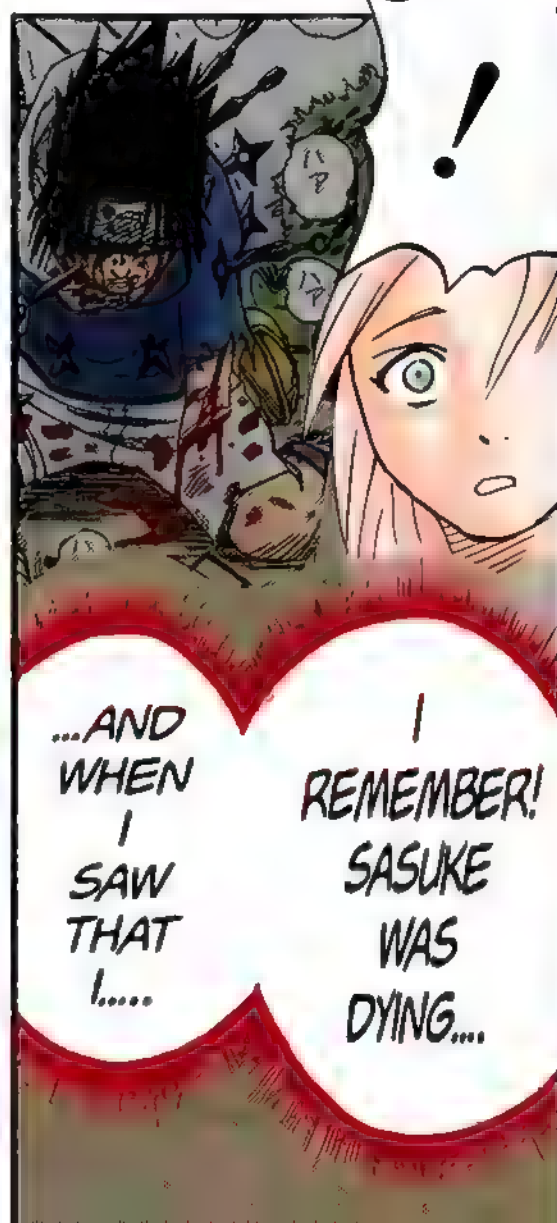
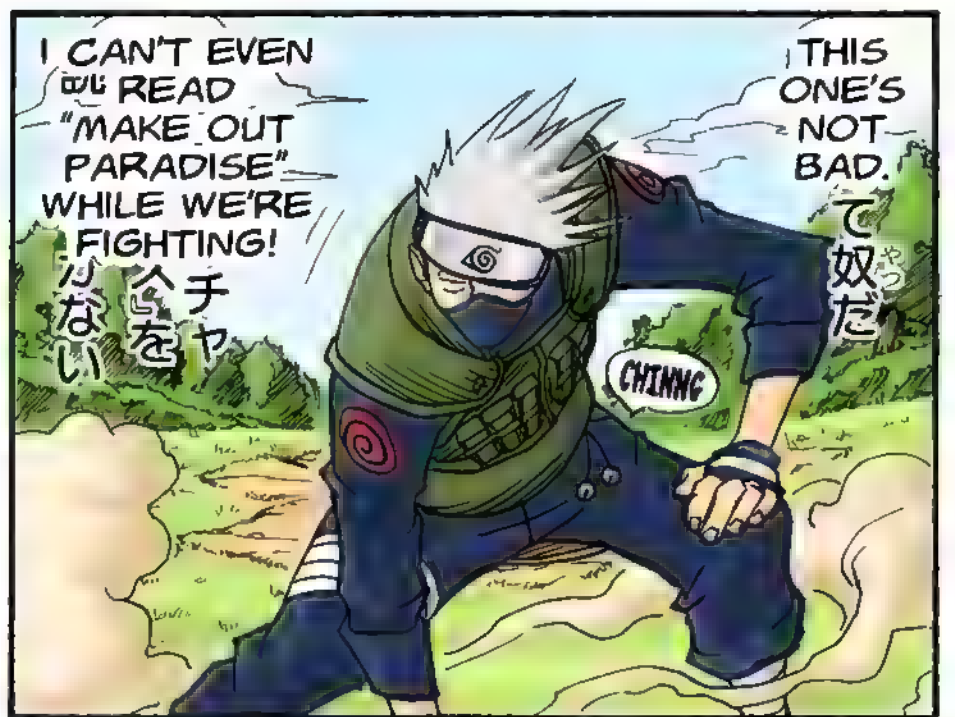
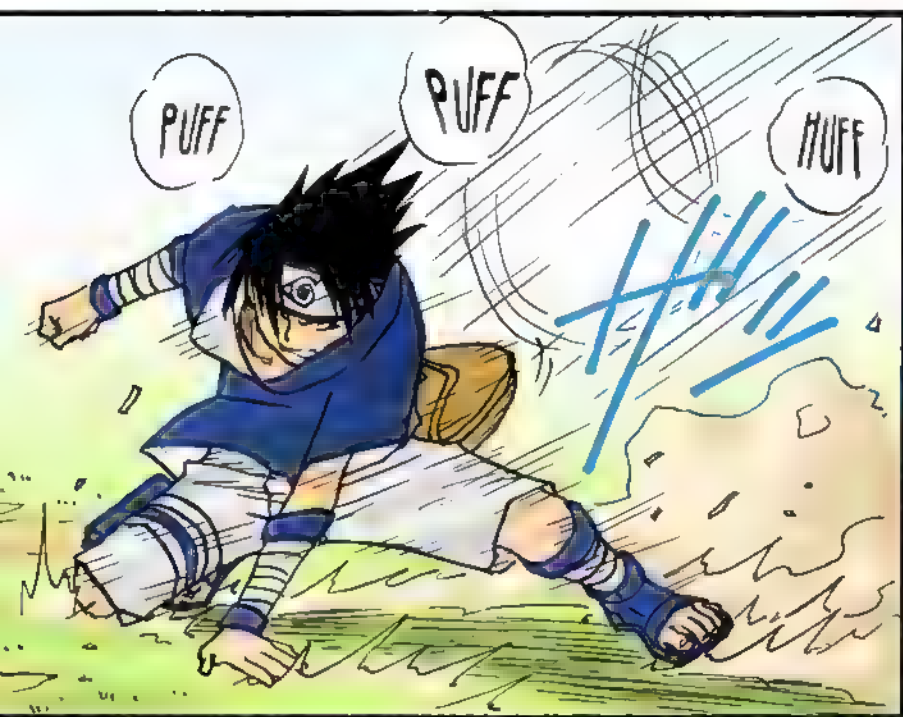
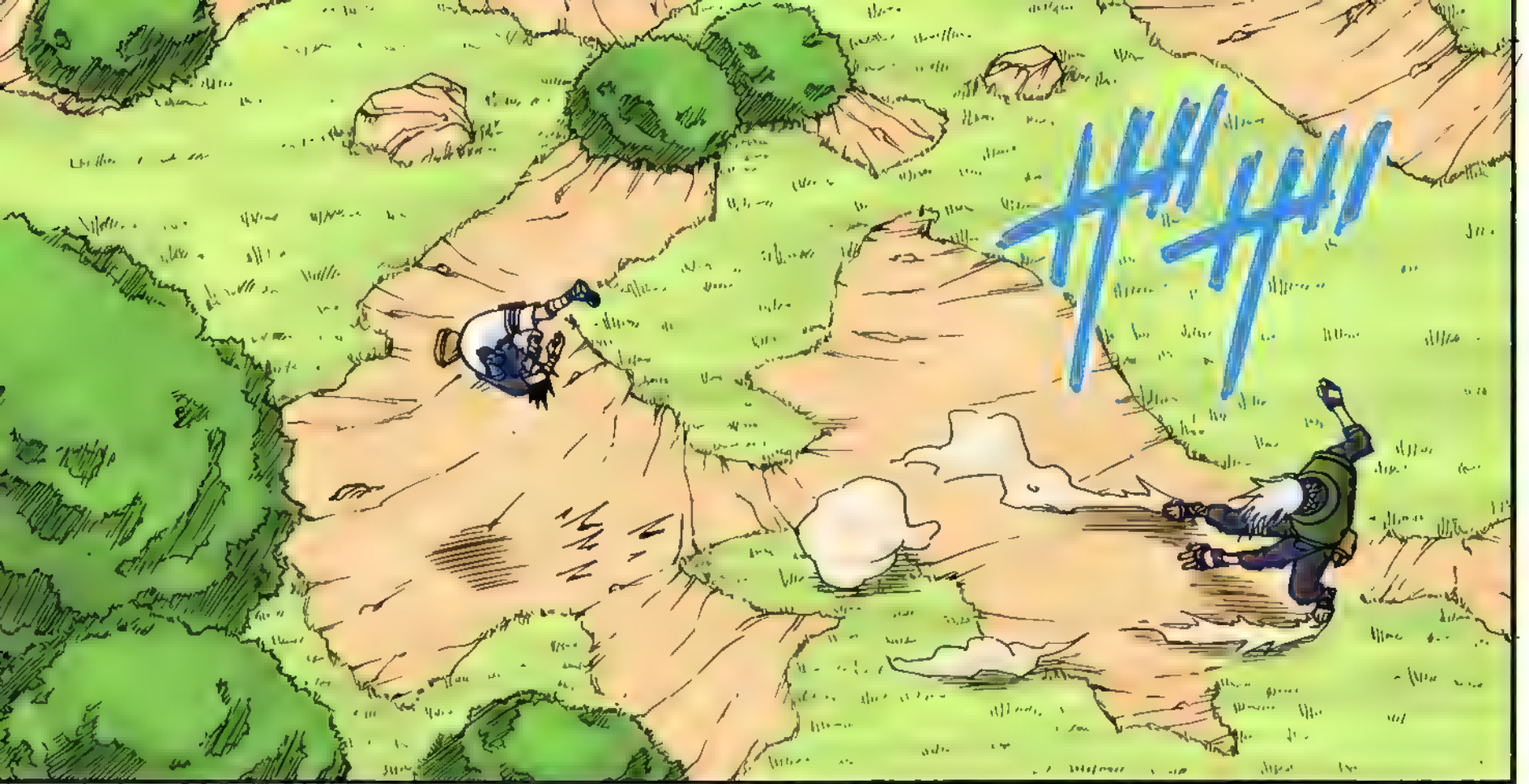


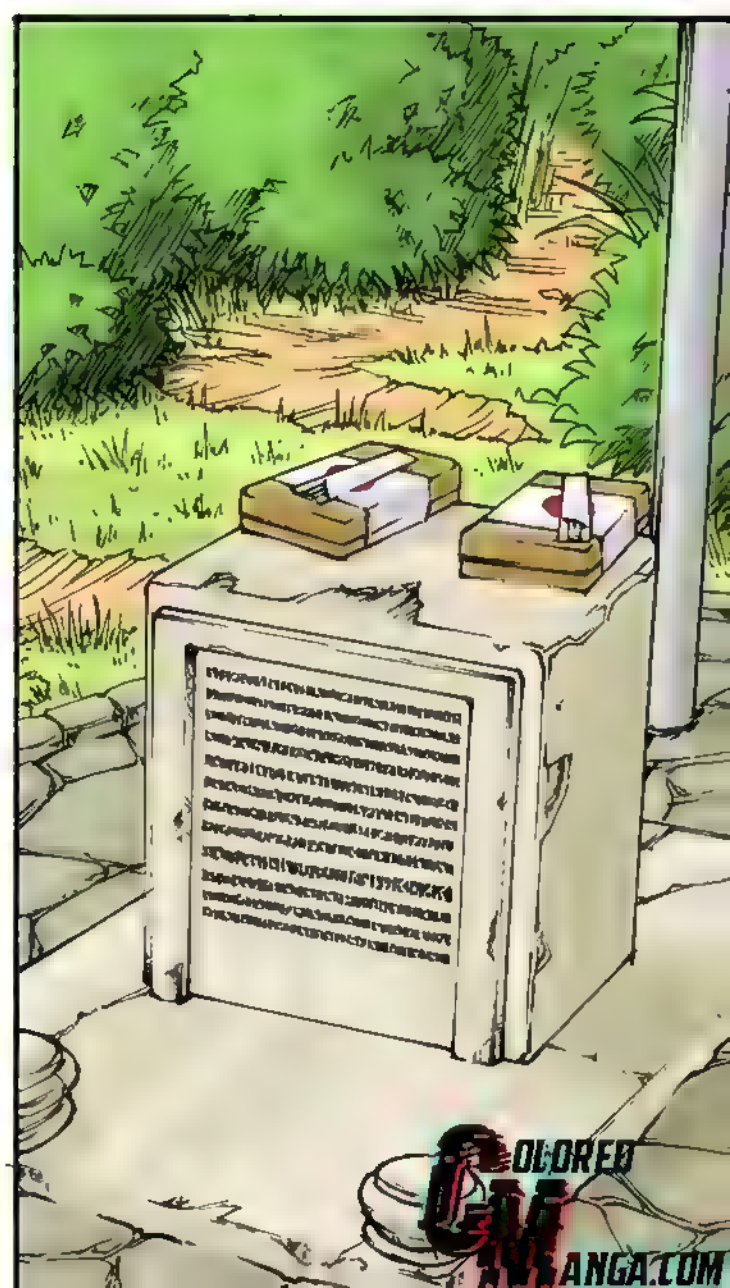
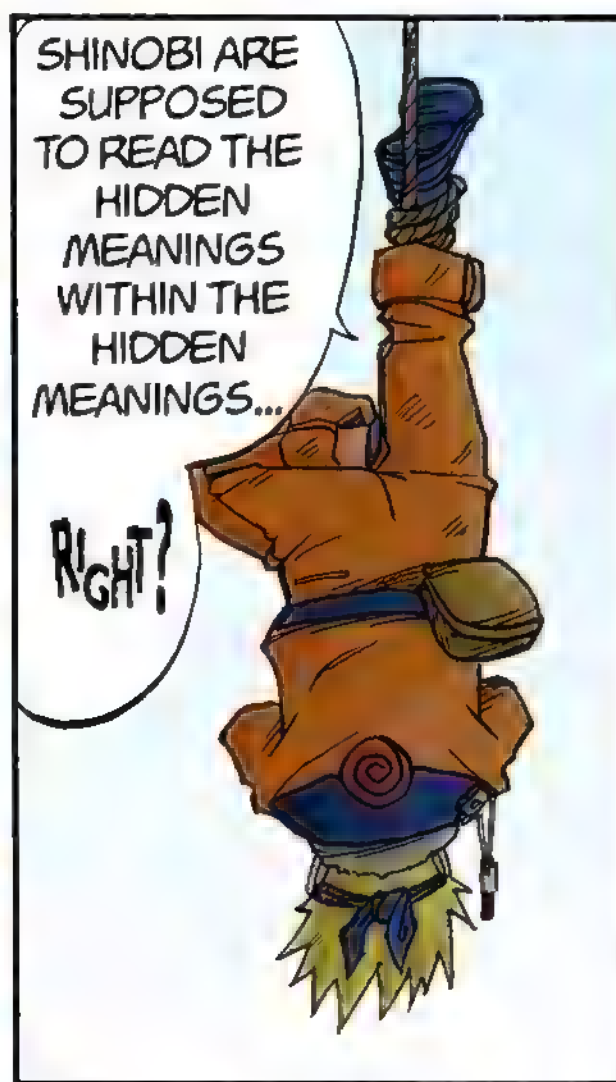
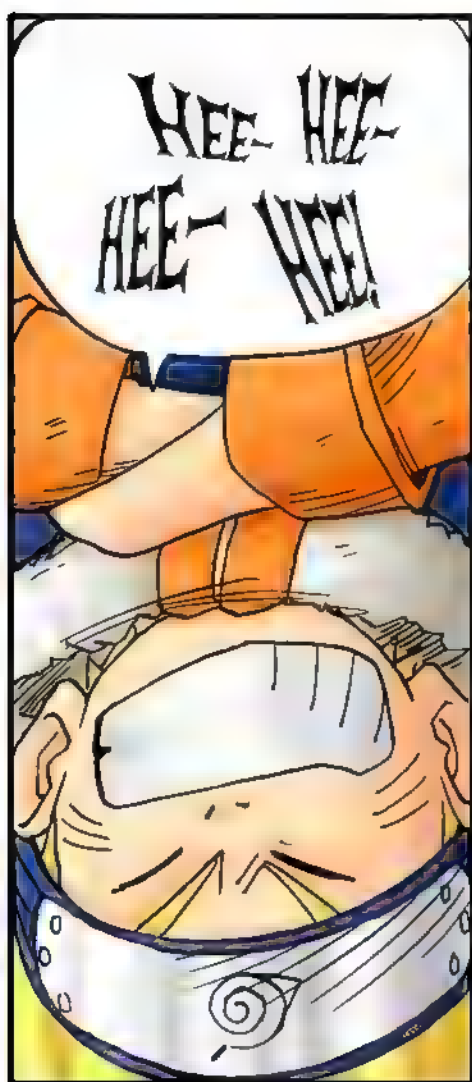
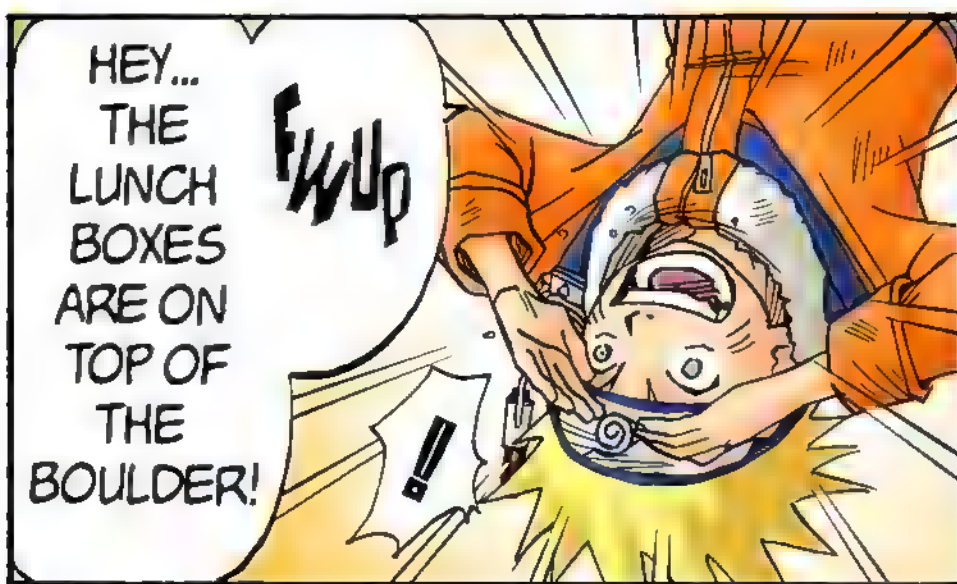


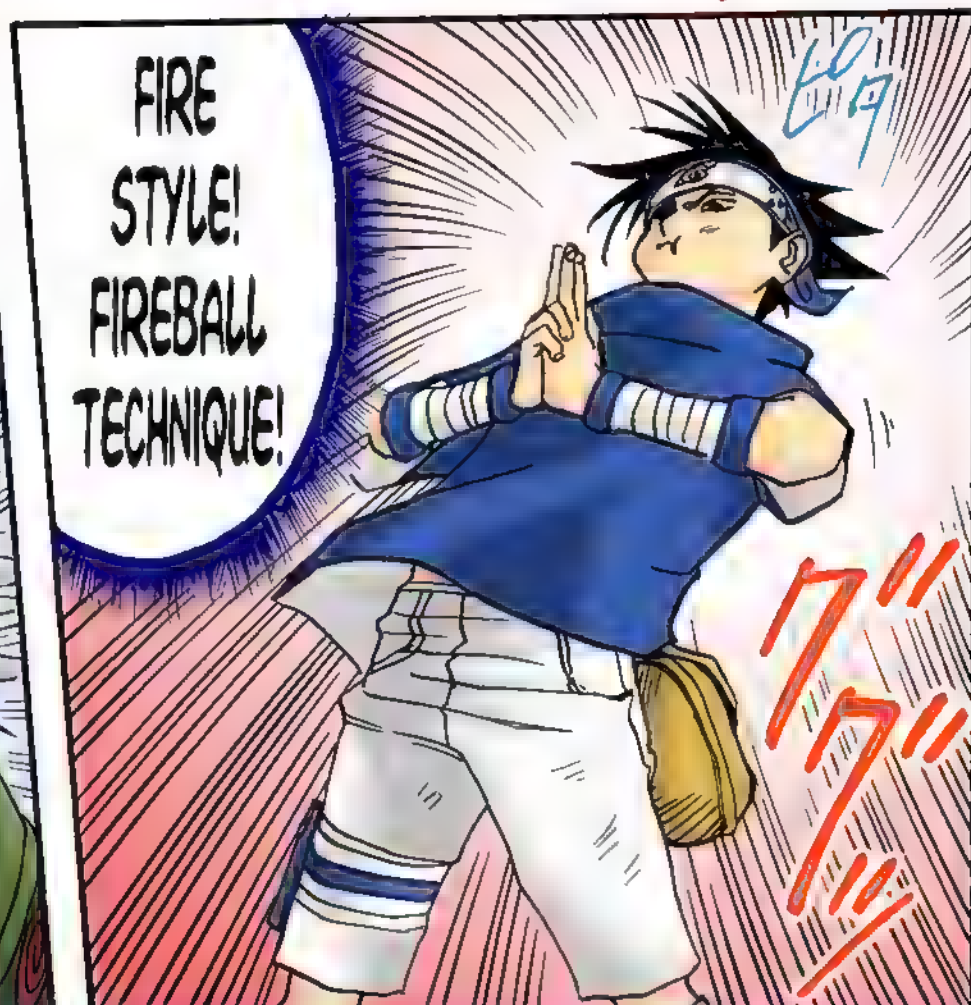
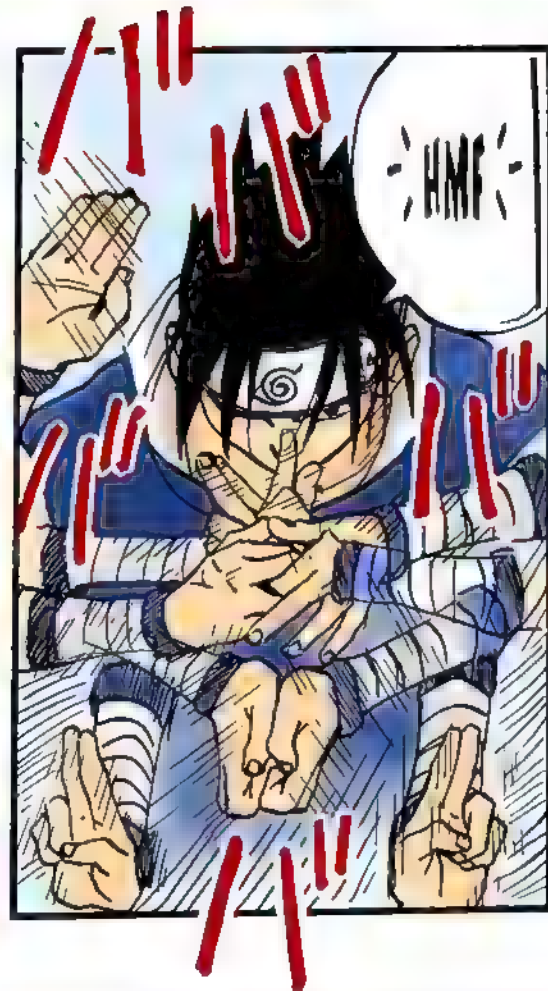
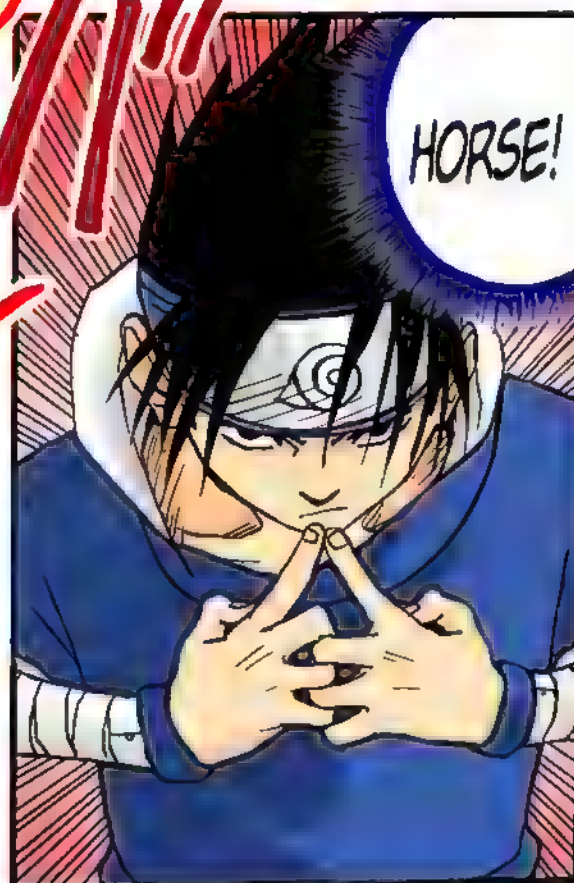


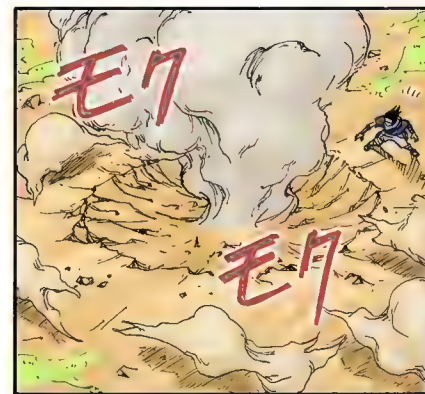


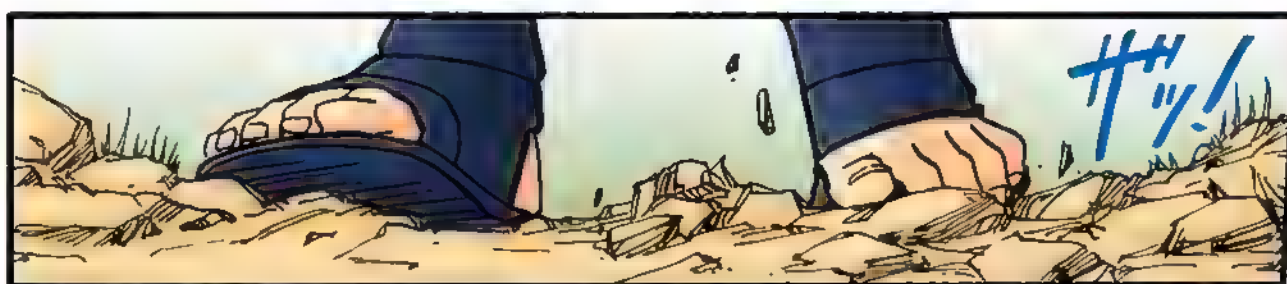
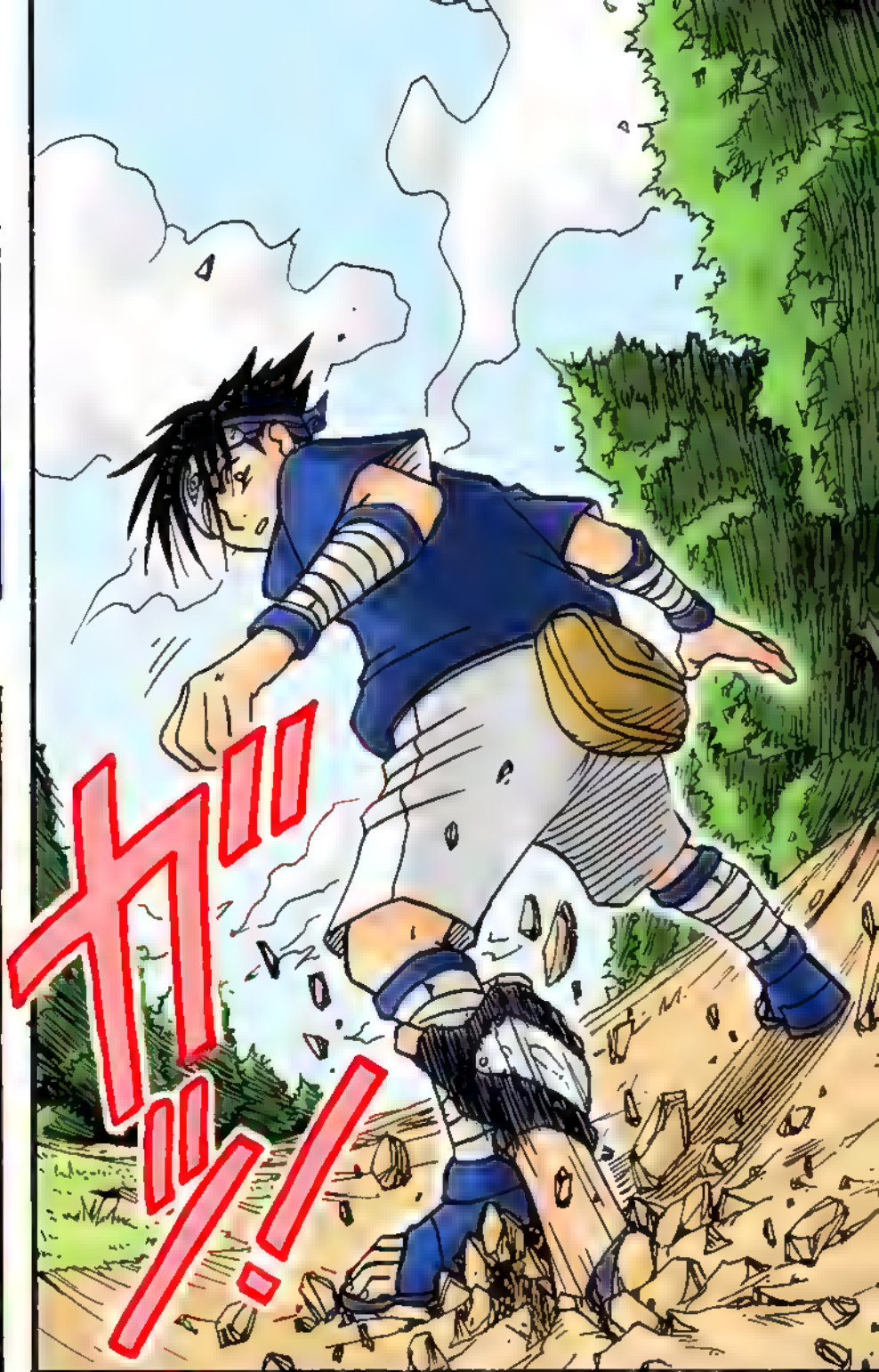
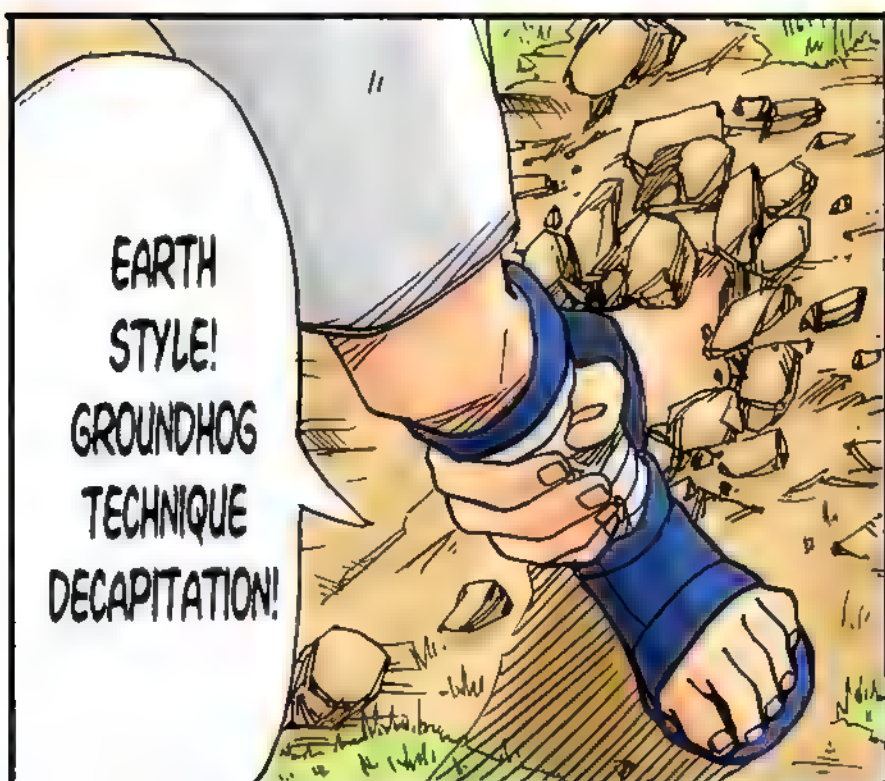
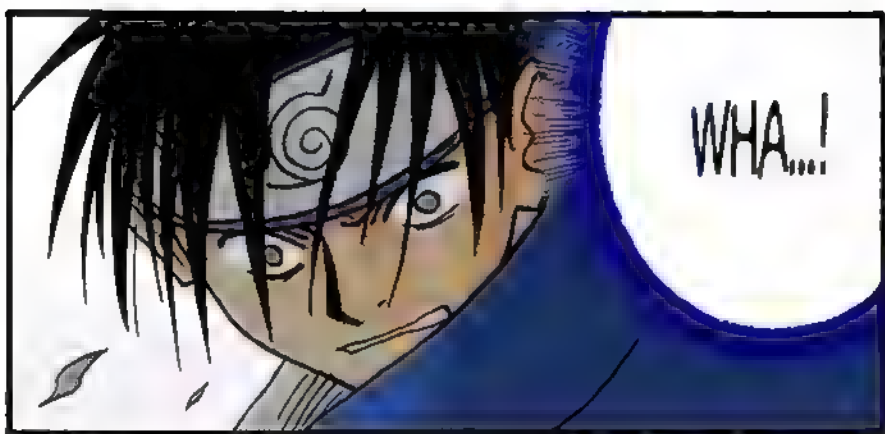


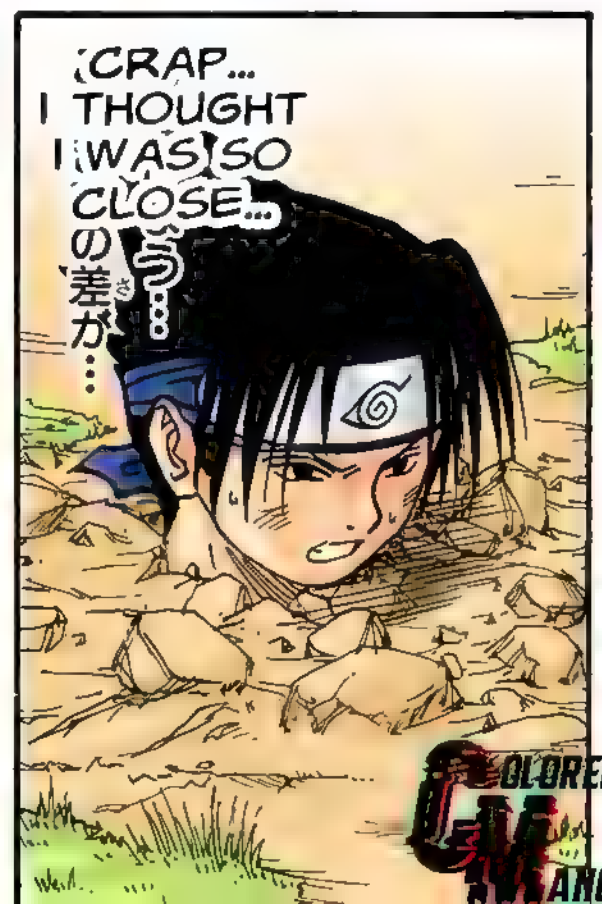
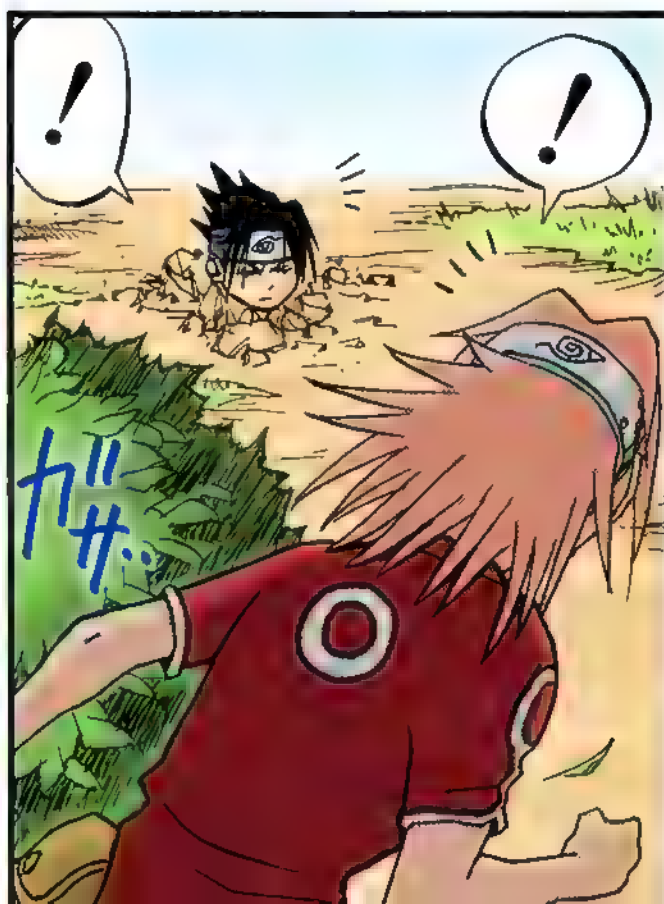
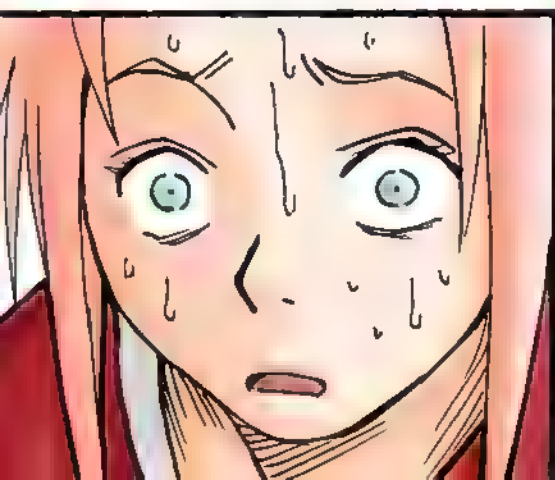
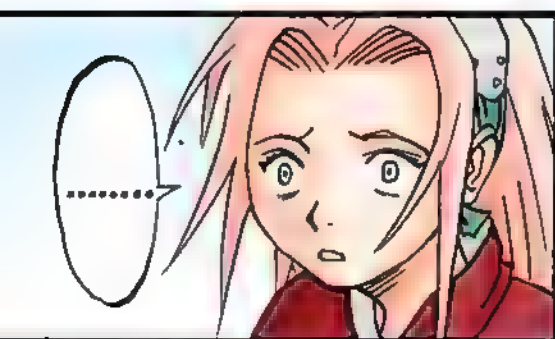
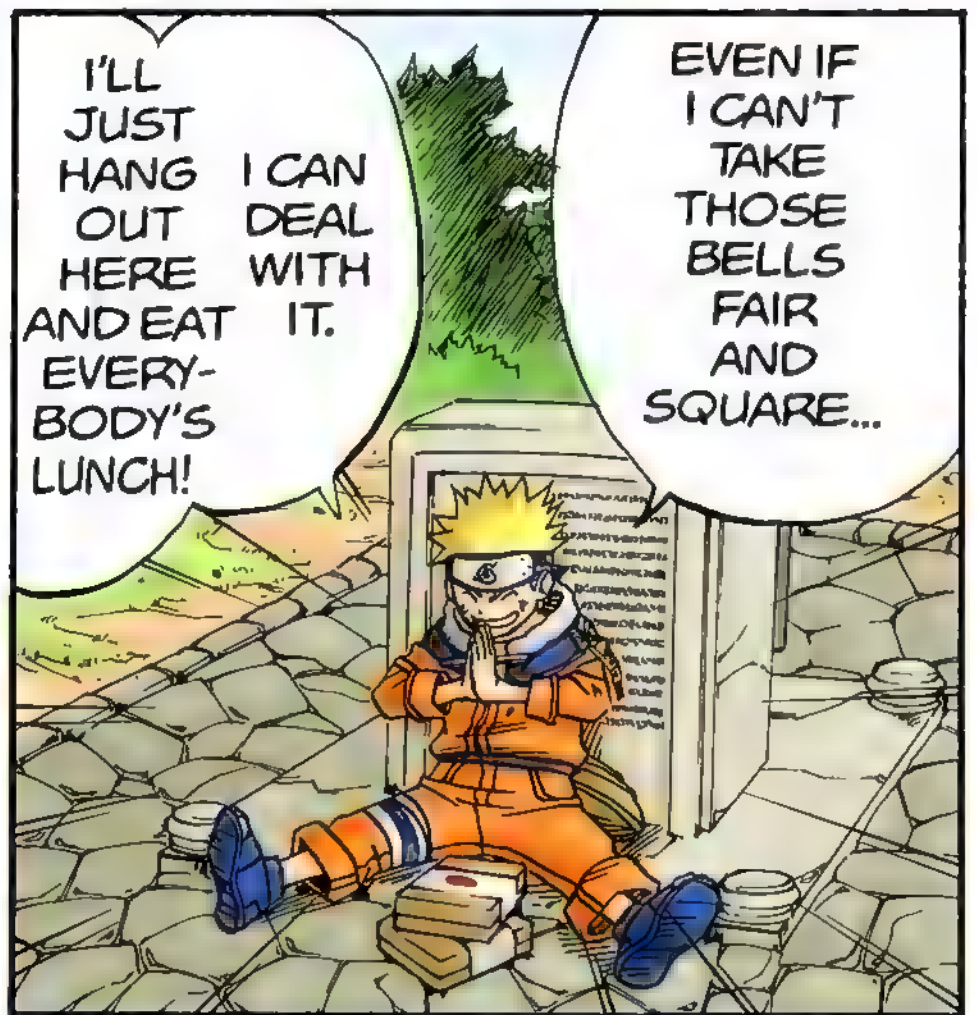
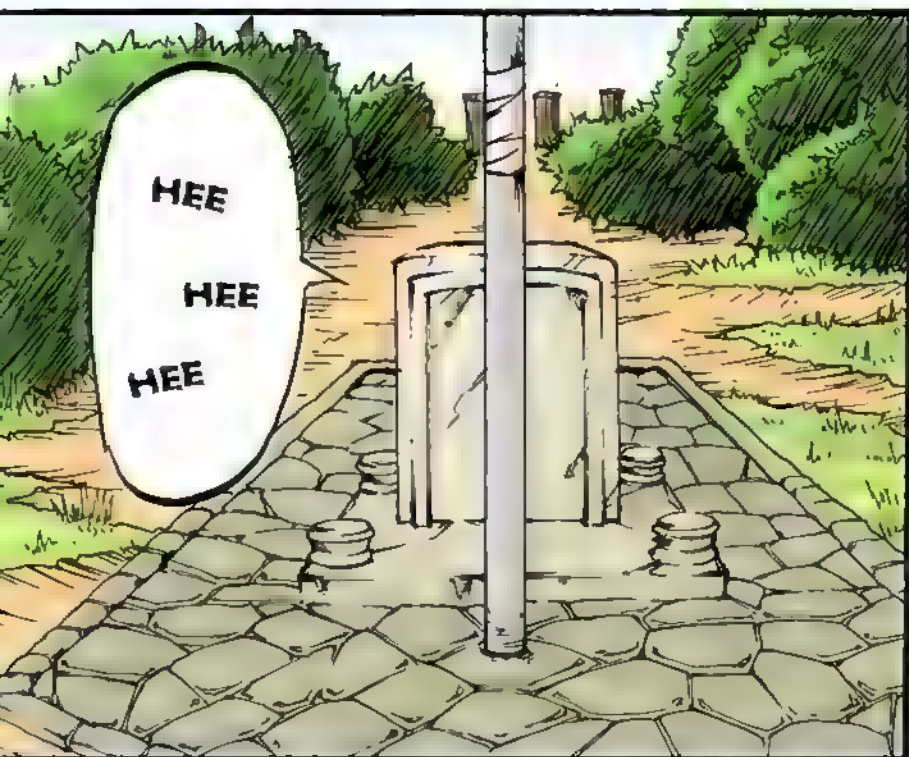


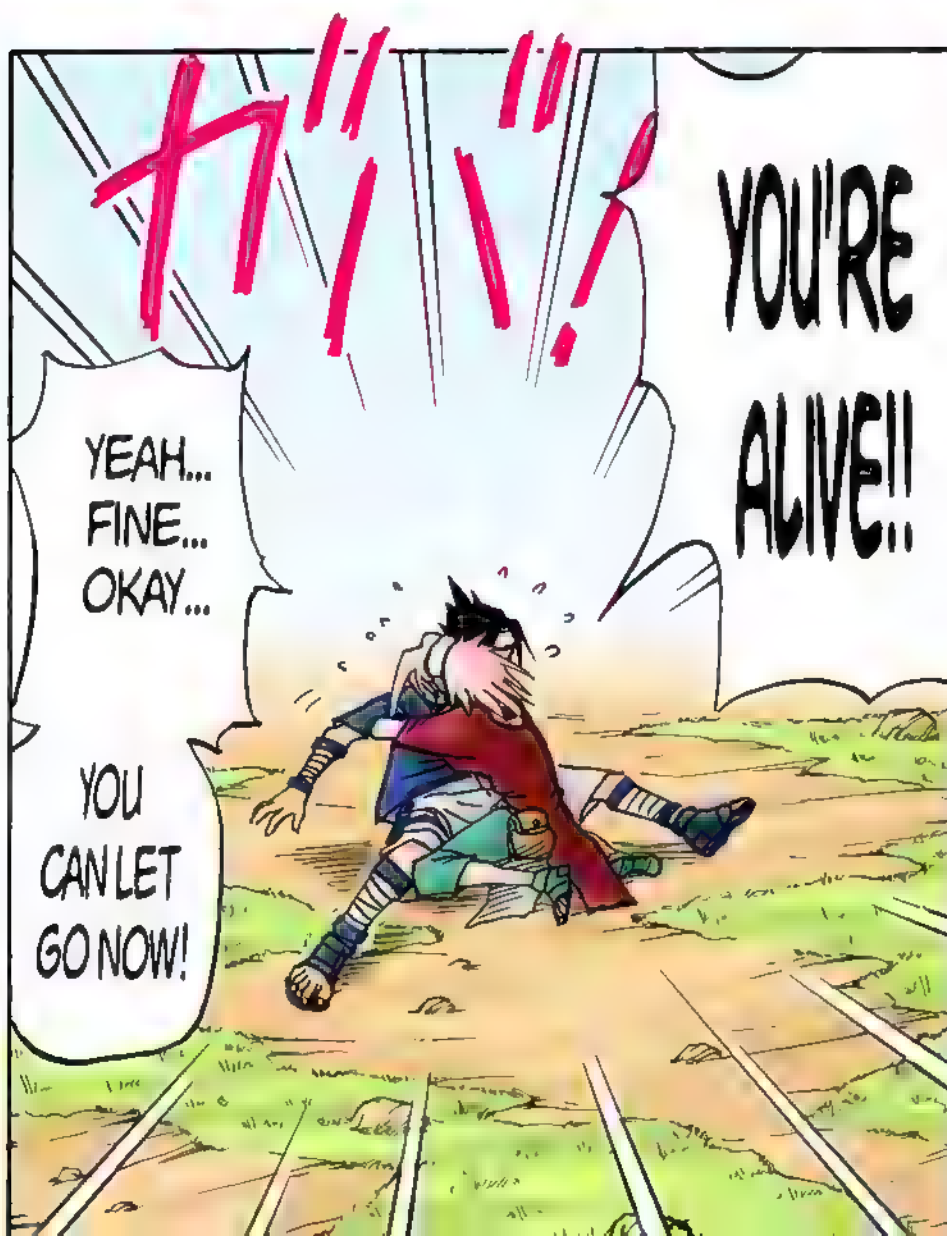
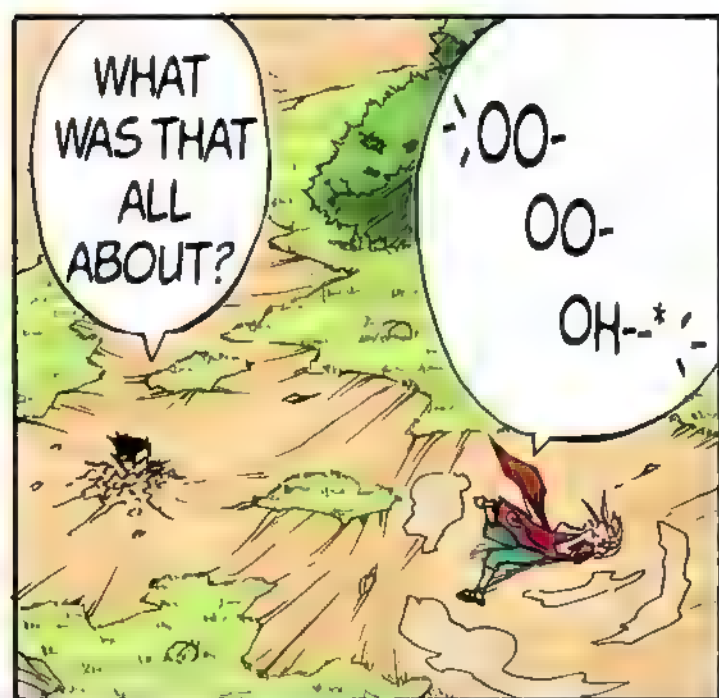
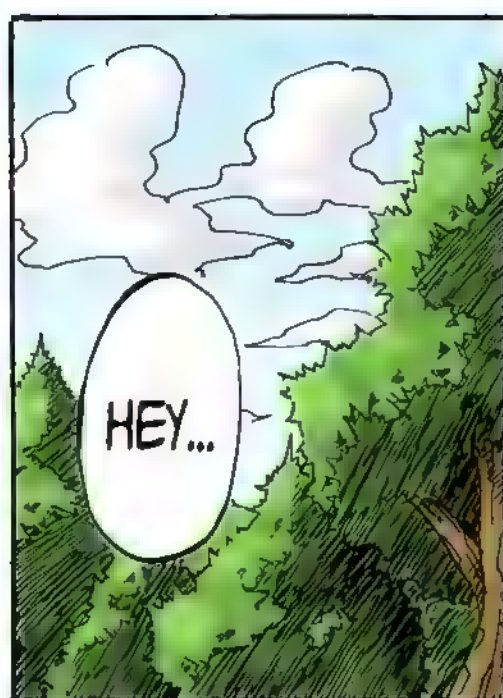
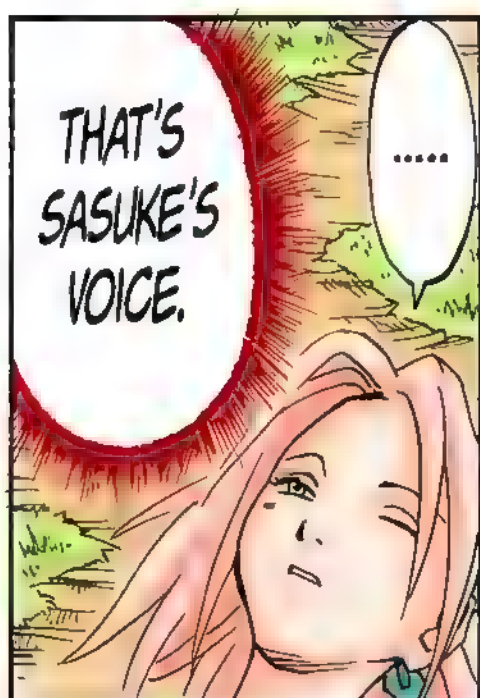
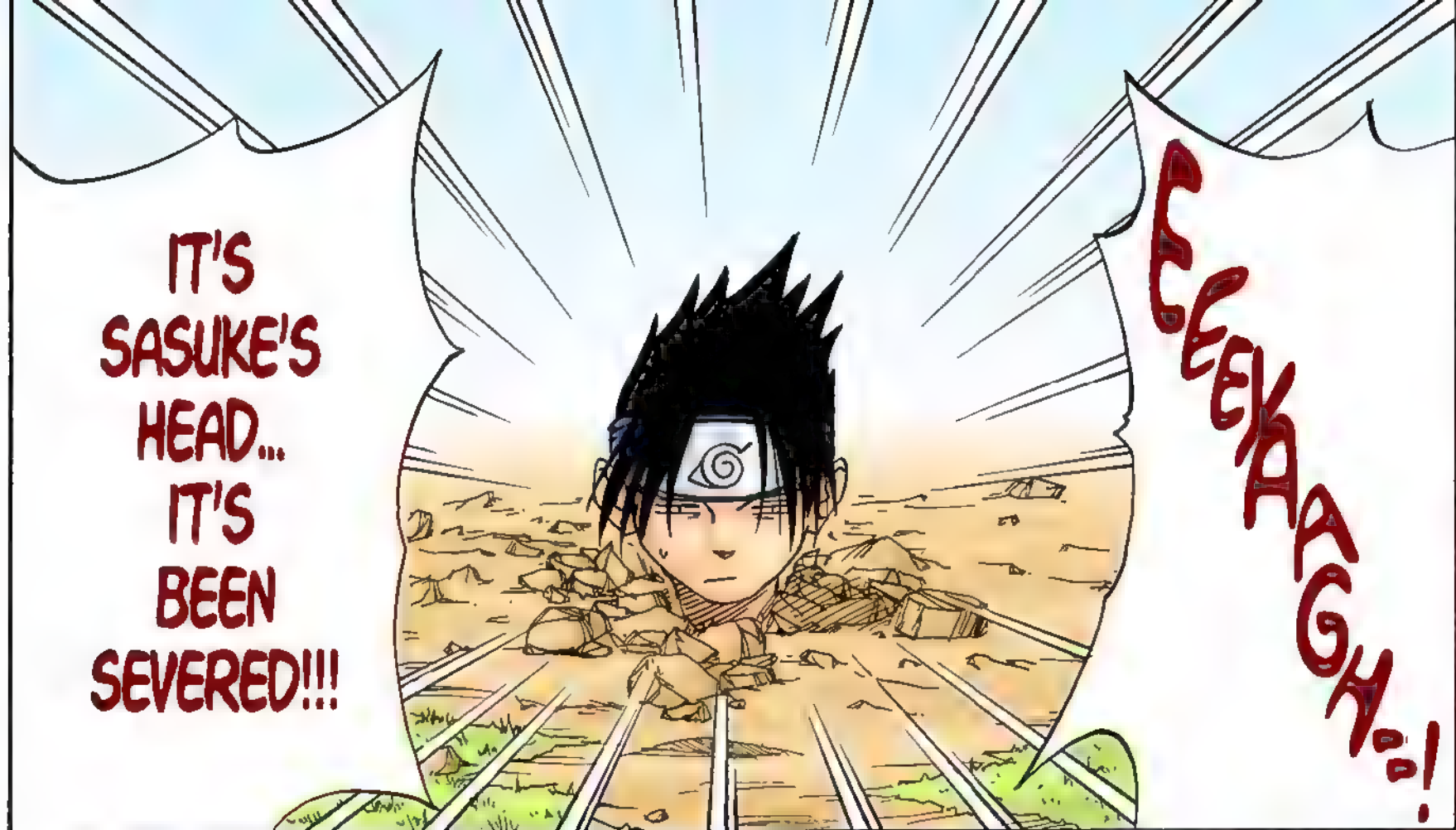


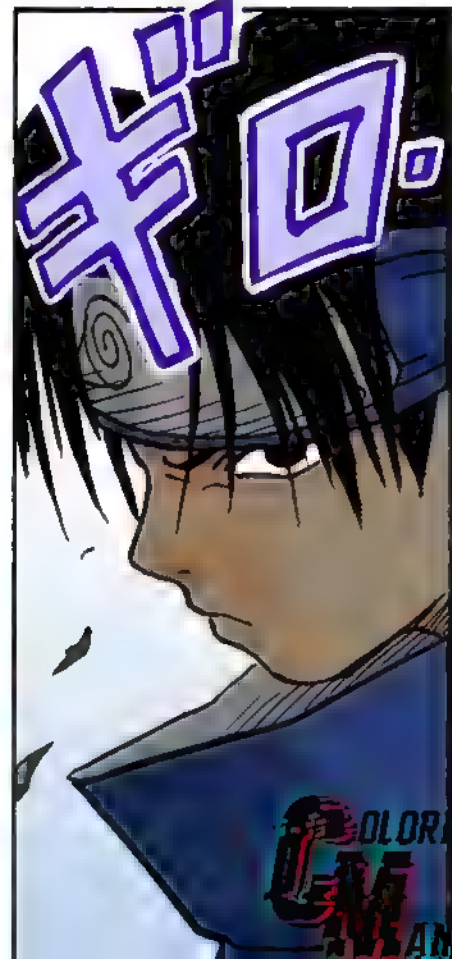
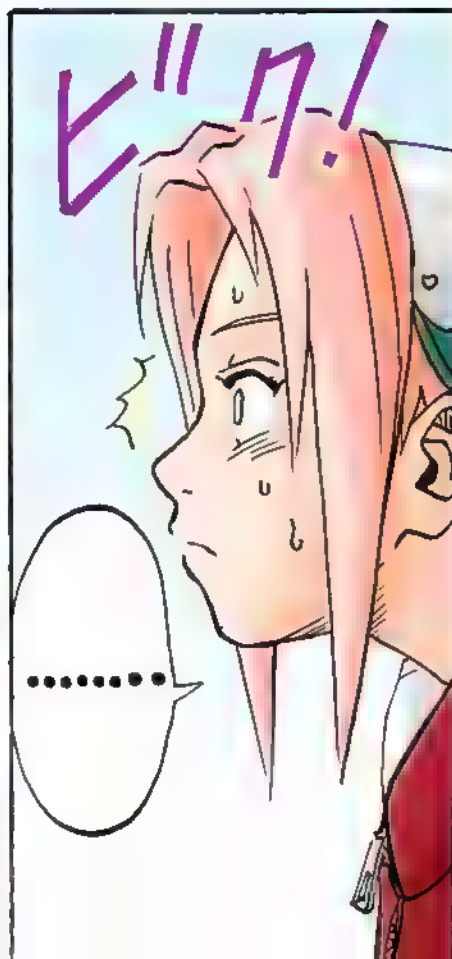
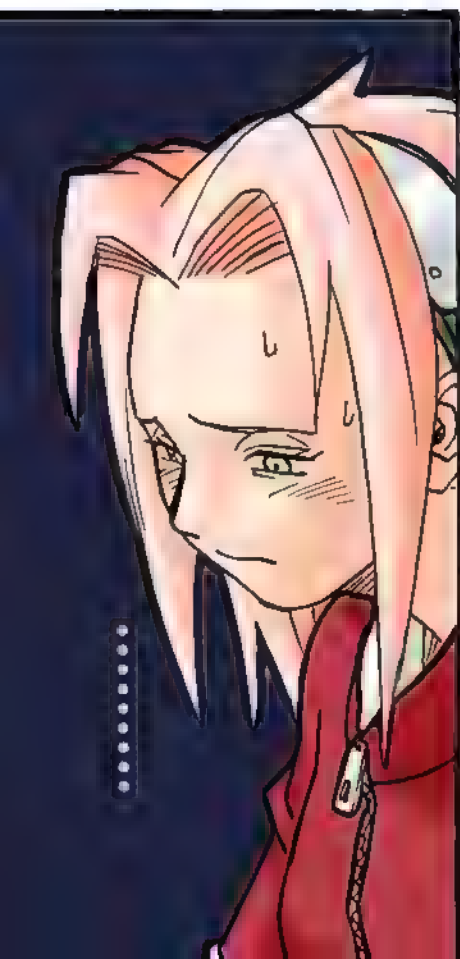
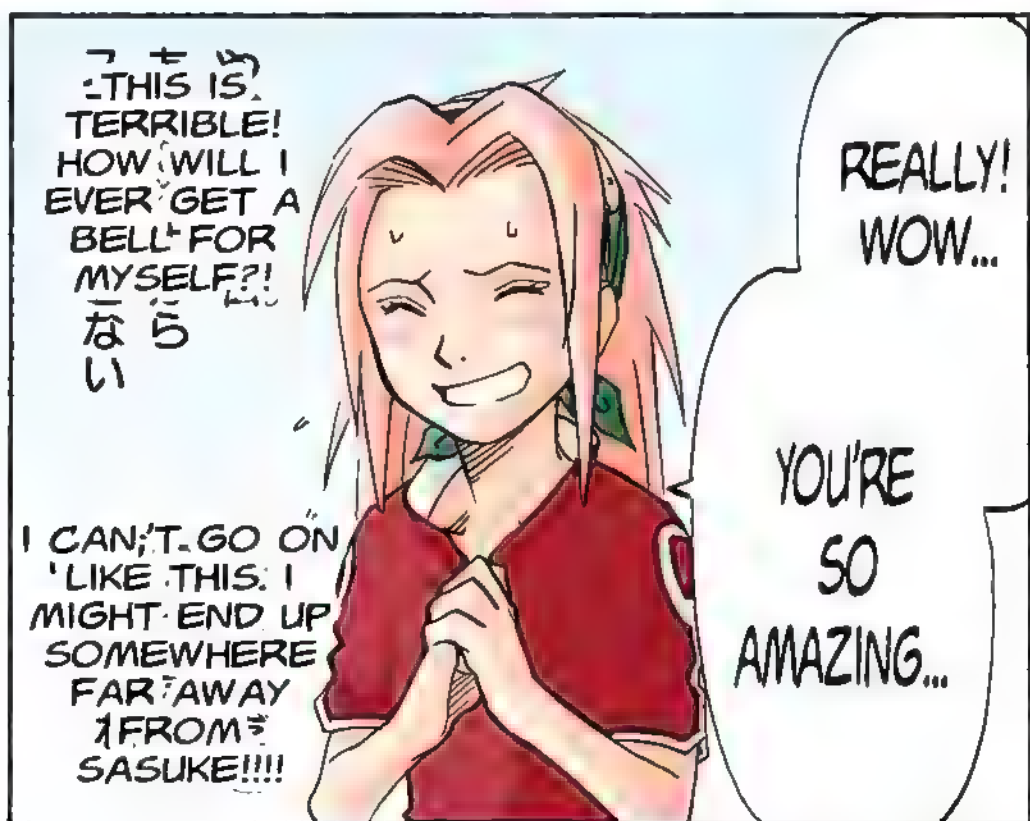
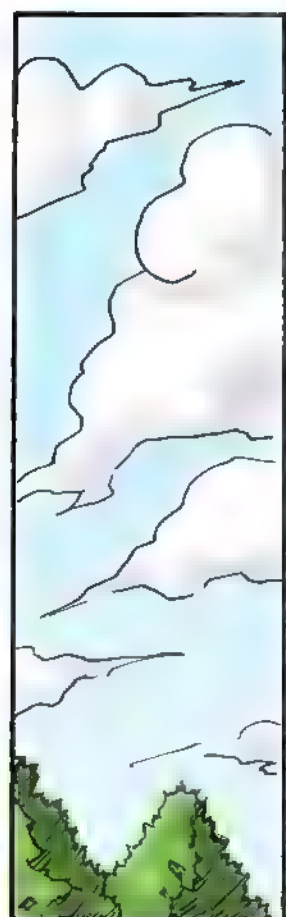
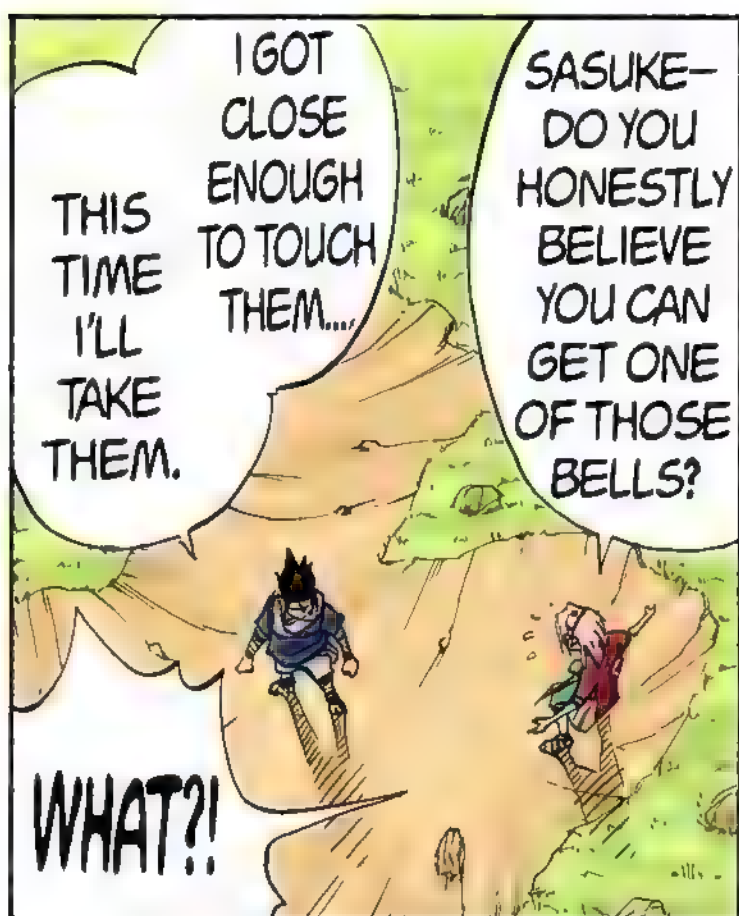


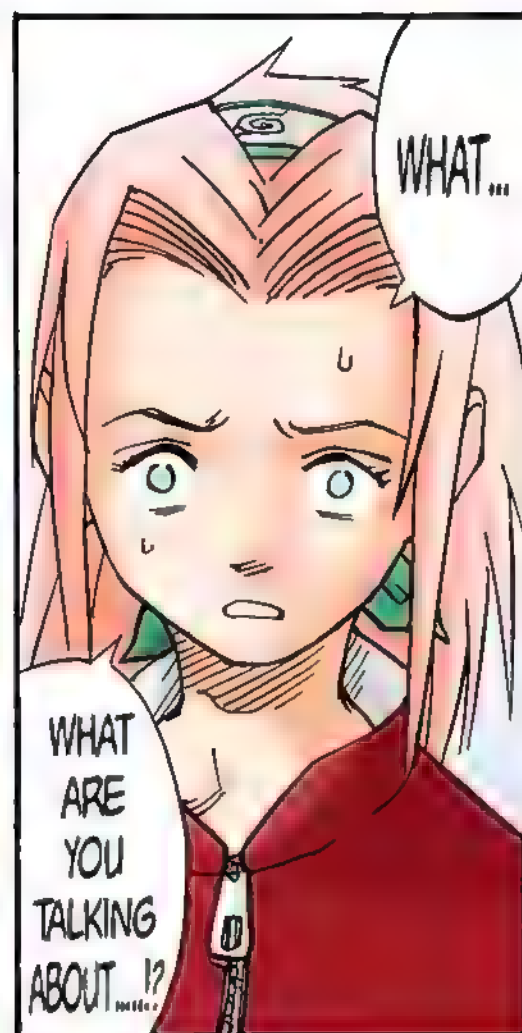
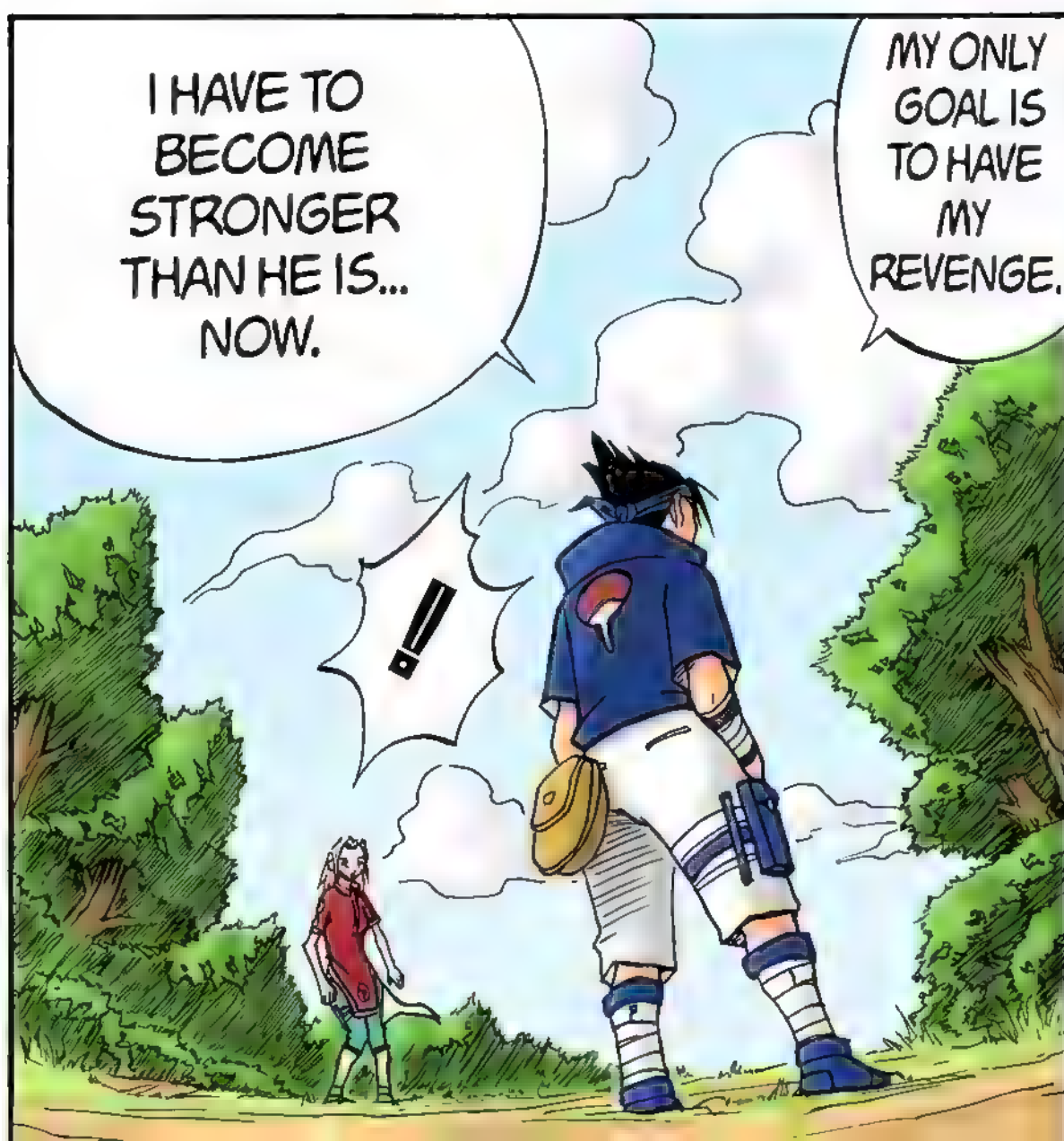
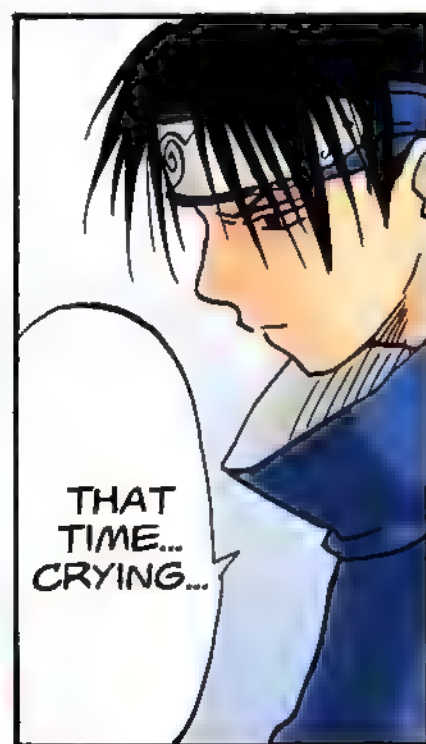
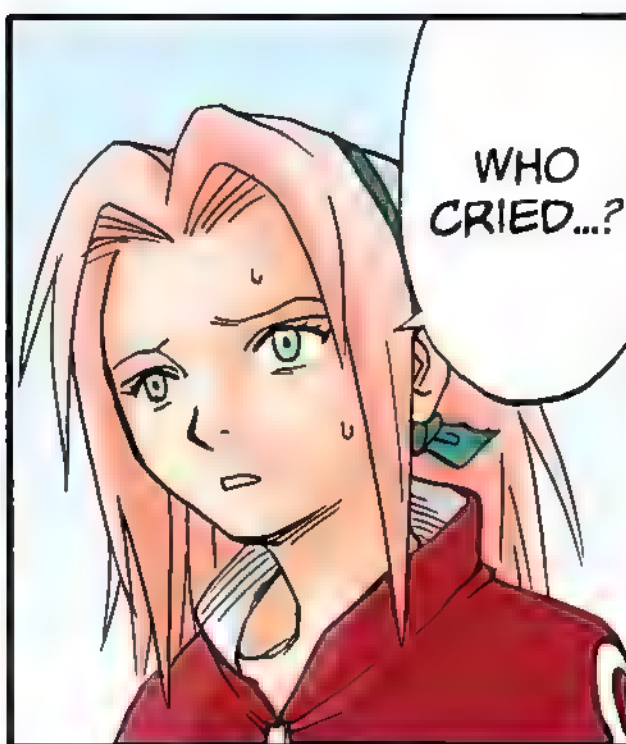
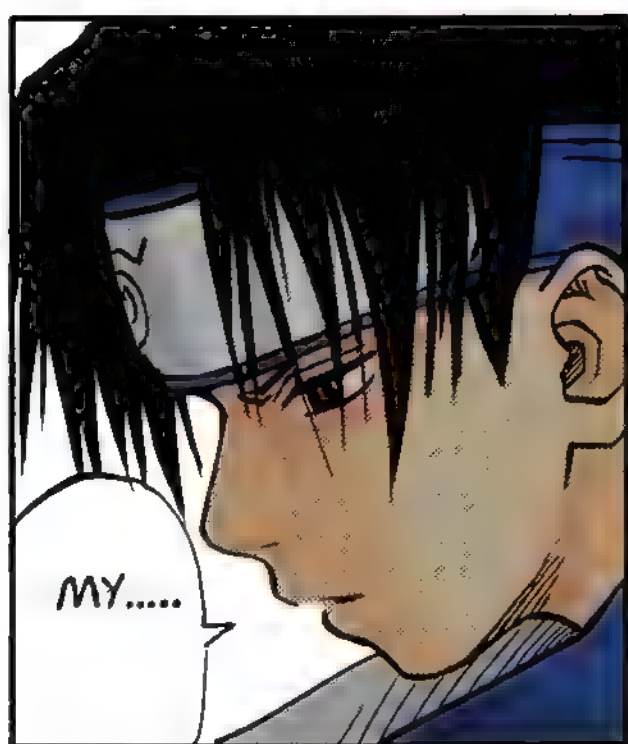
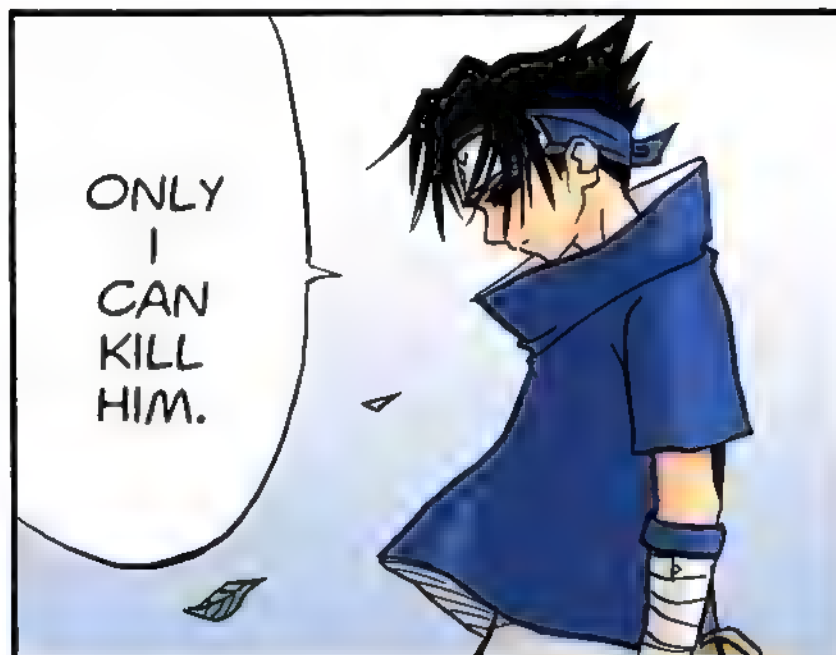
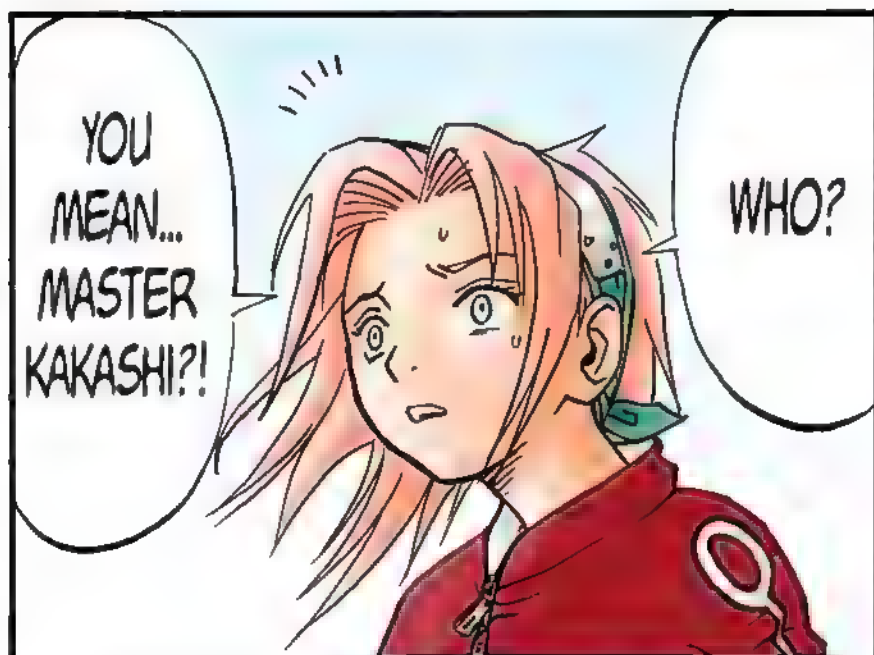


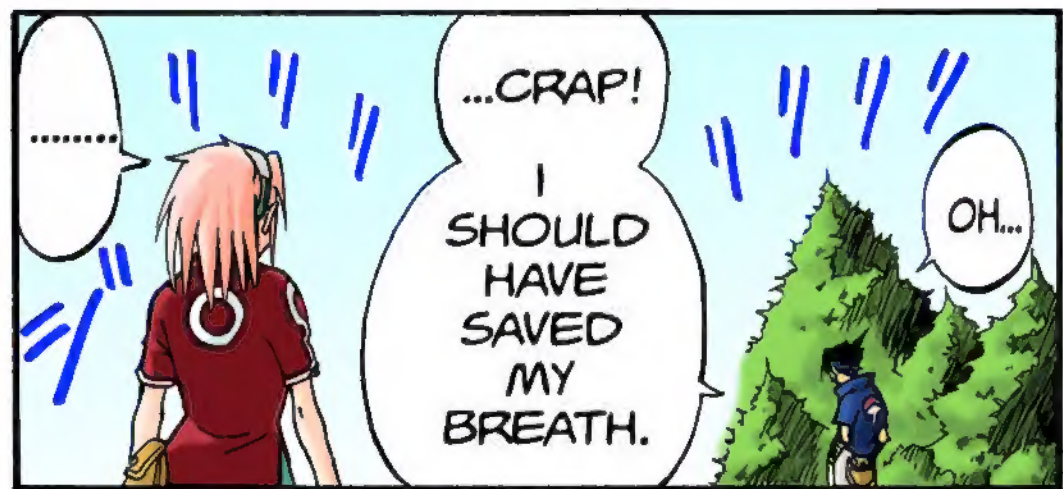
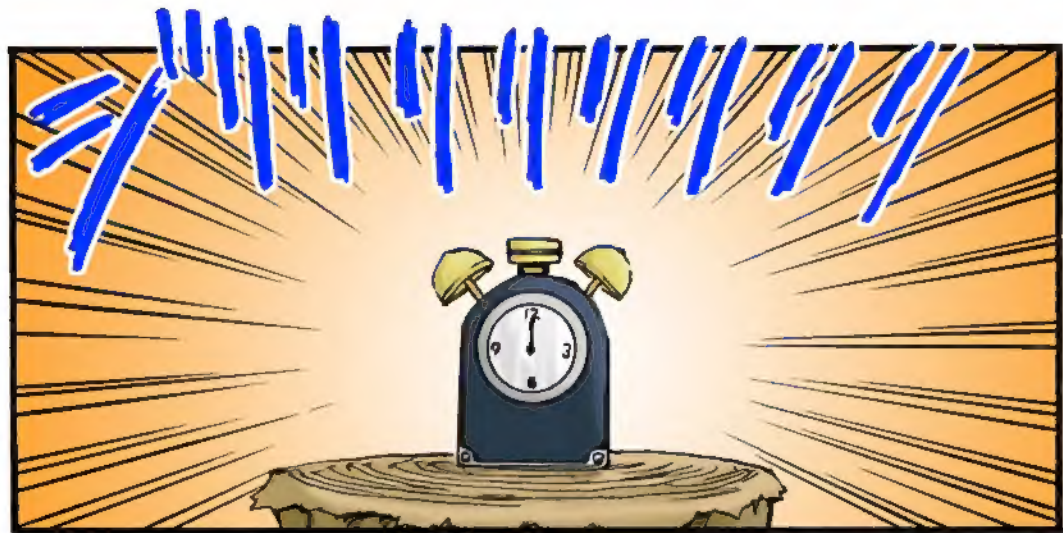
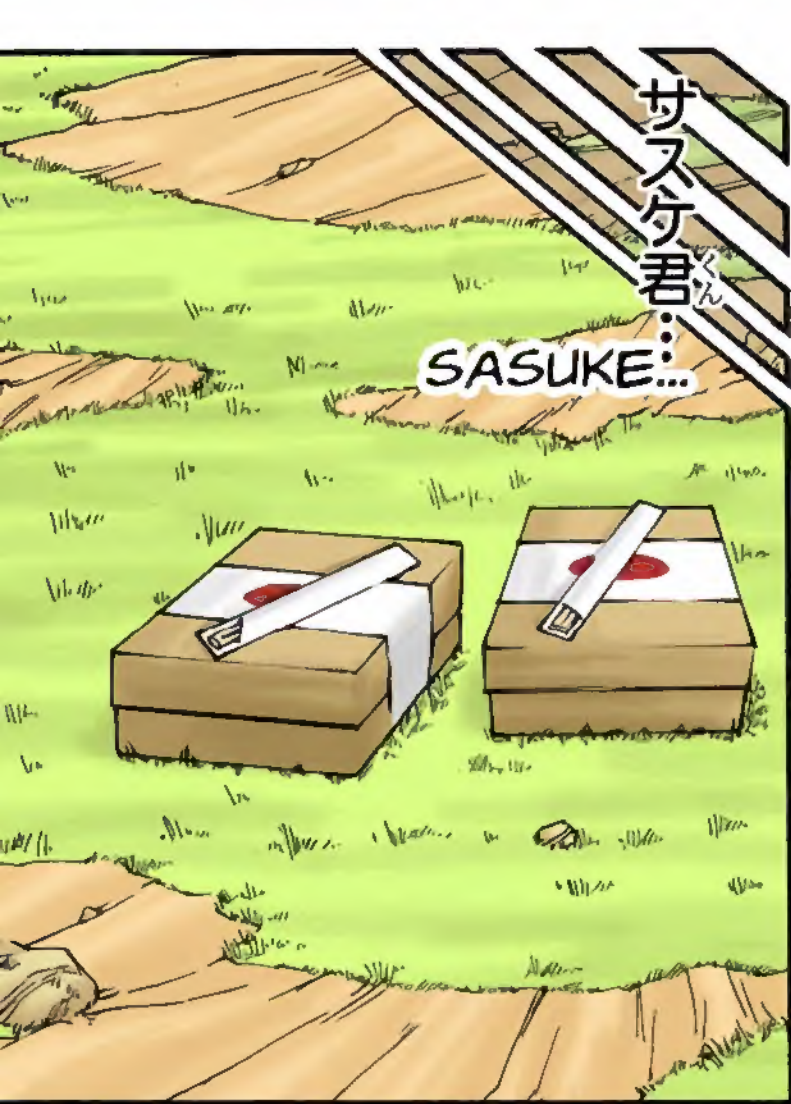
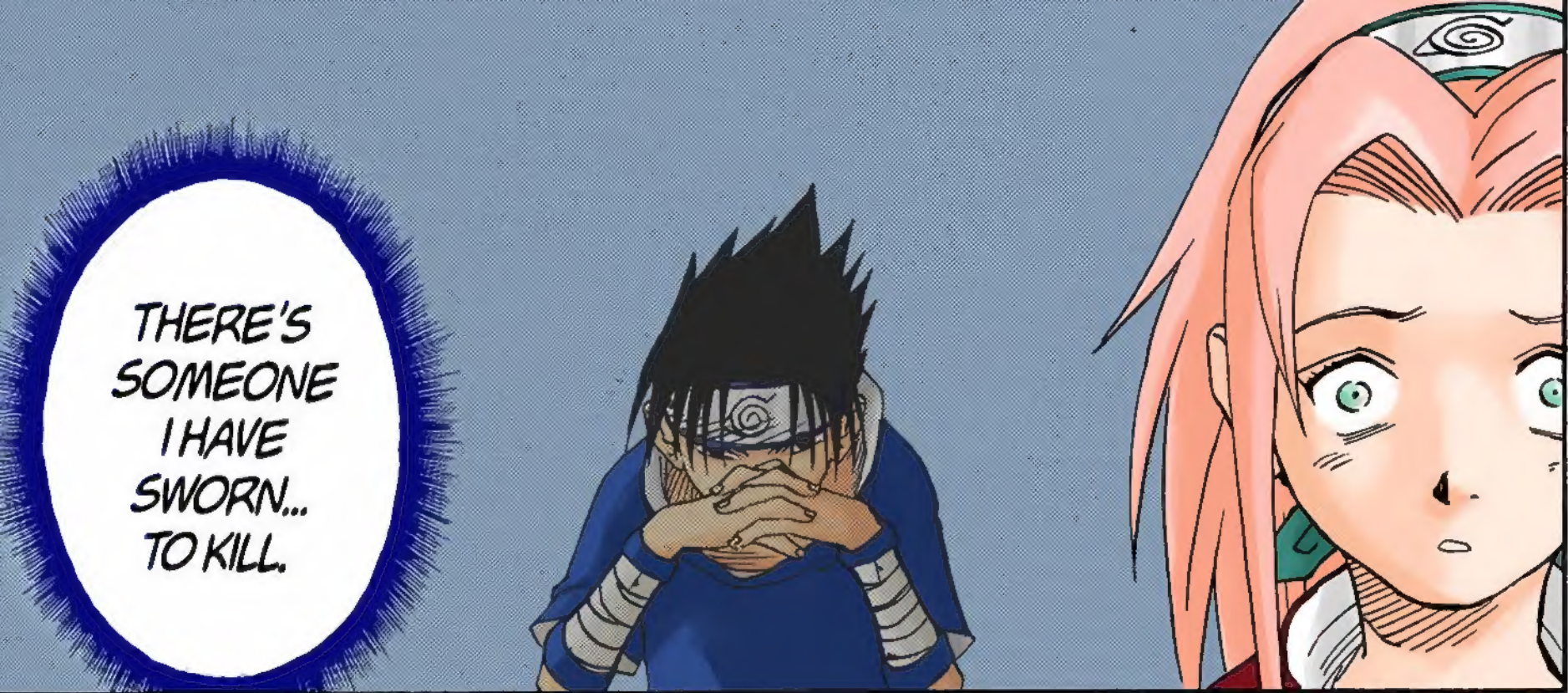


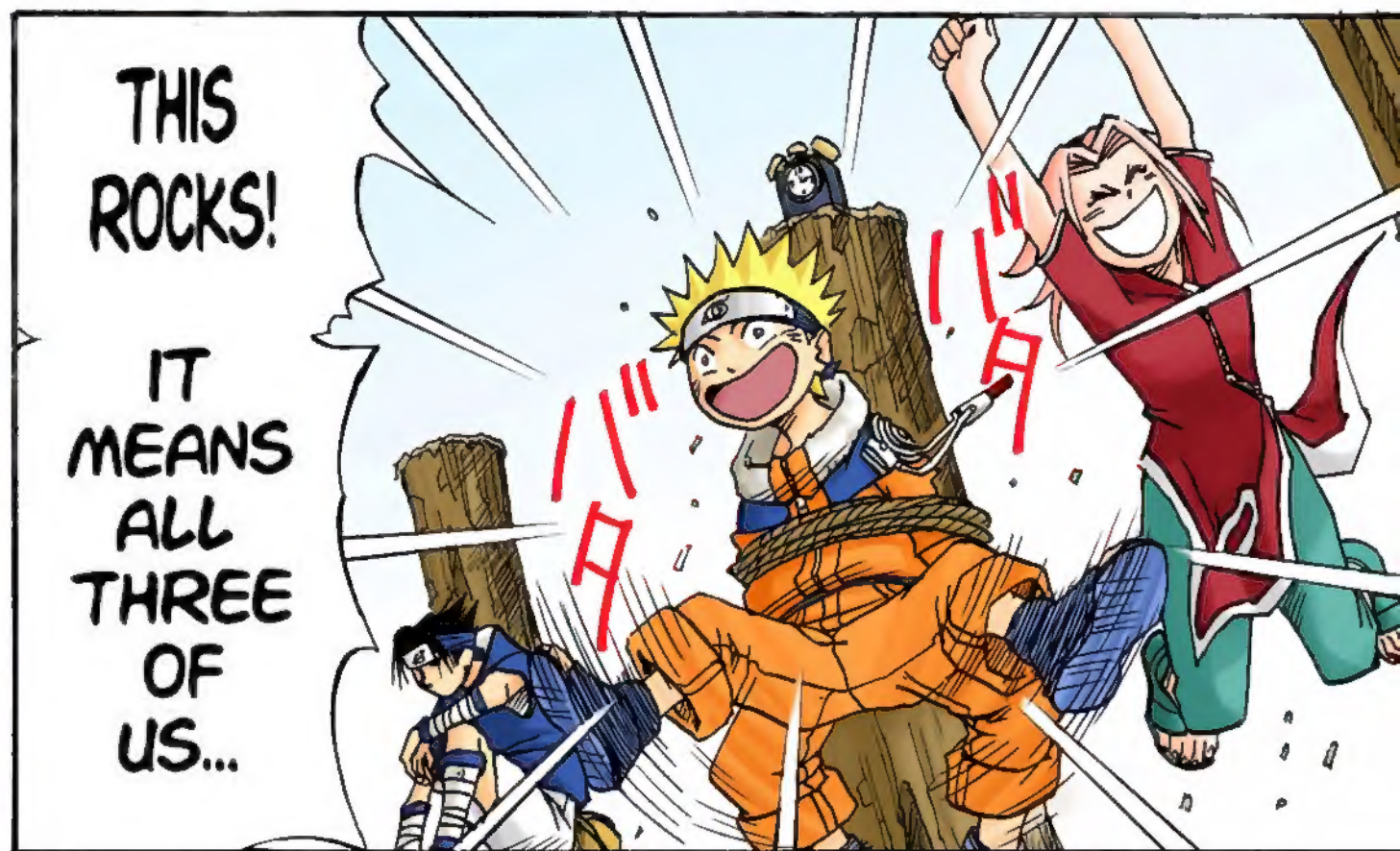
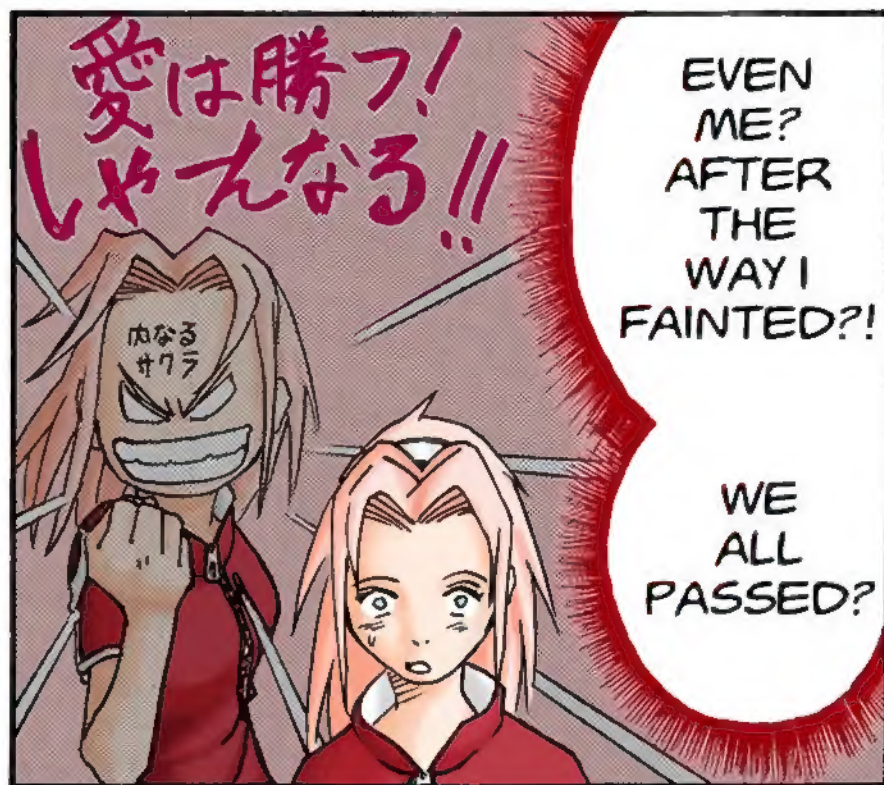
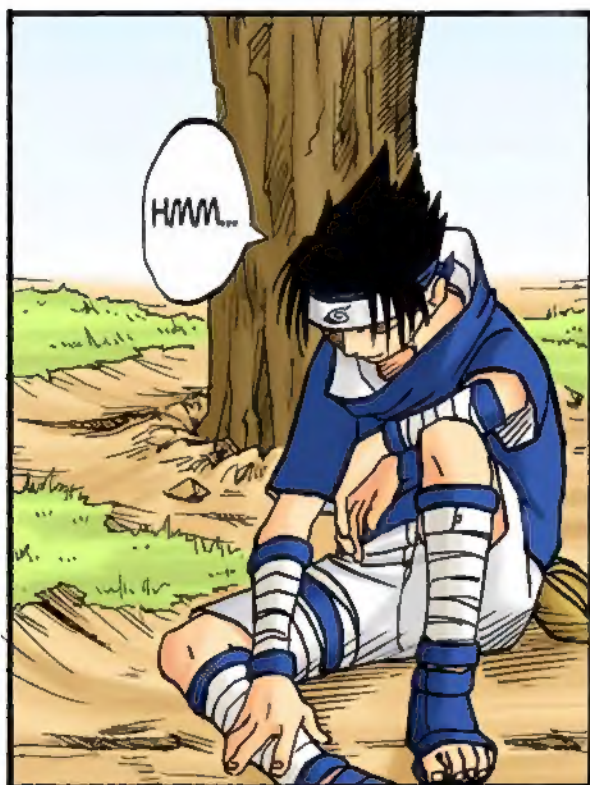
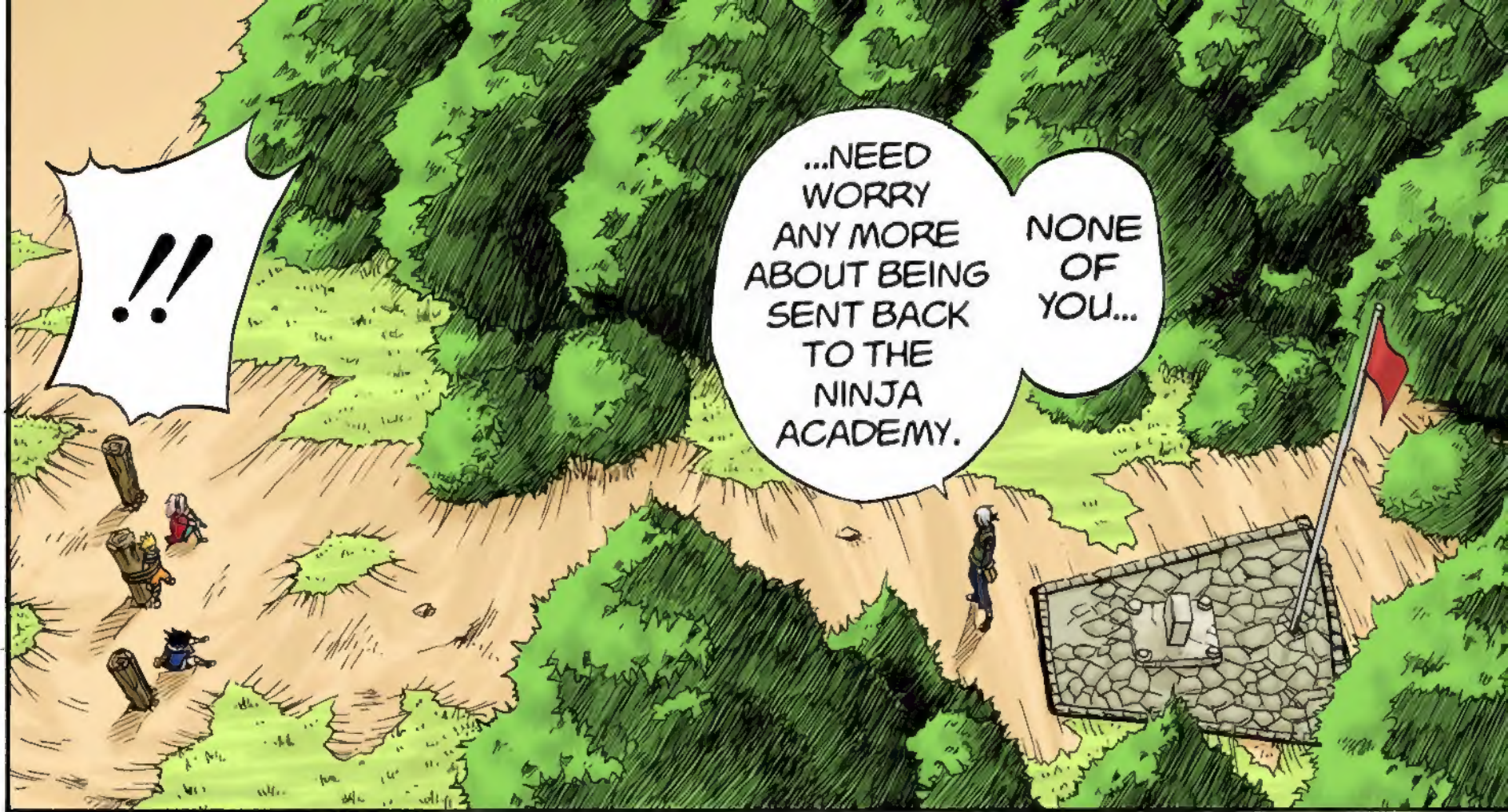


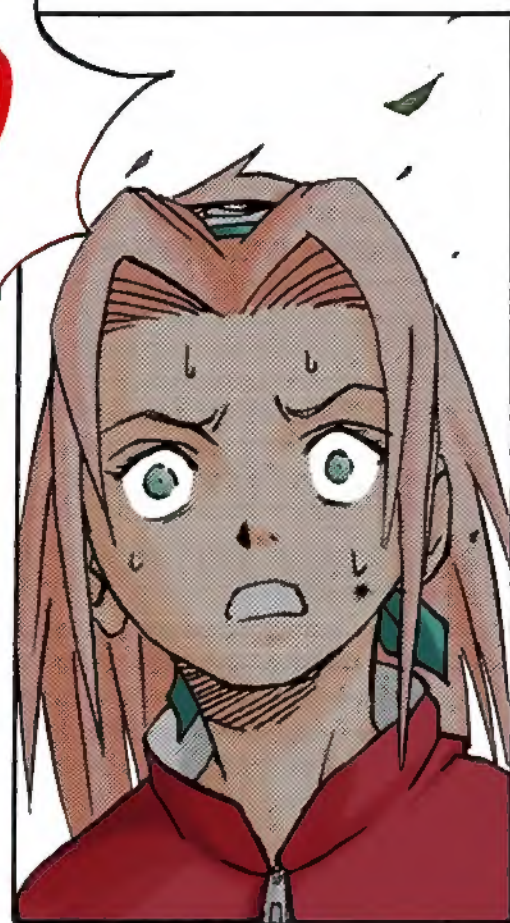
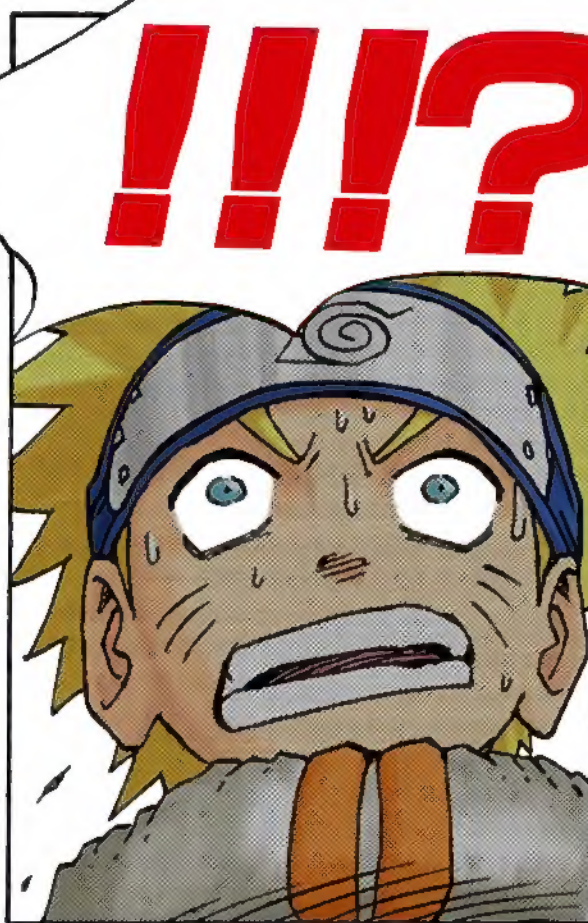
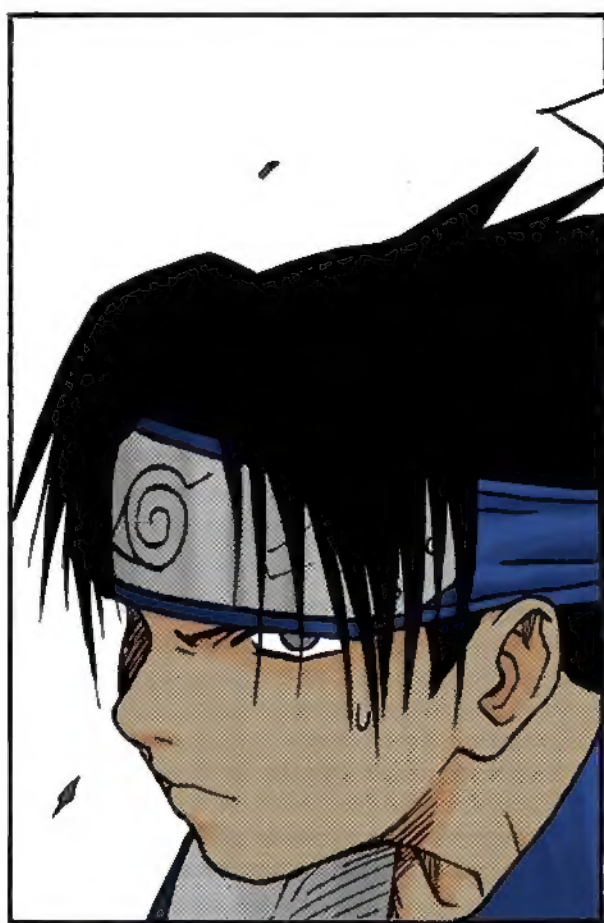














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